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**Pronk Makes the
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Part Art,
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**The Best Seats
in The House**

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You Are

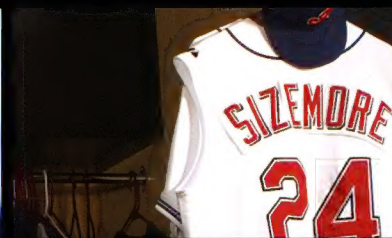
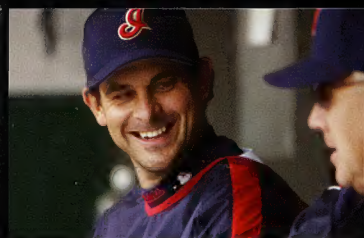
& MORE

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Family Matters

CLIFF LEE
How To Throw A Change-up

JOSE HERNANDEZ
No Horsing Around

PEEK INSIDE
Grady's Locker



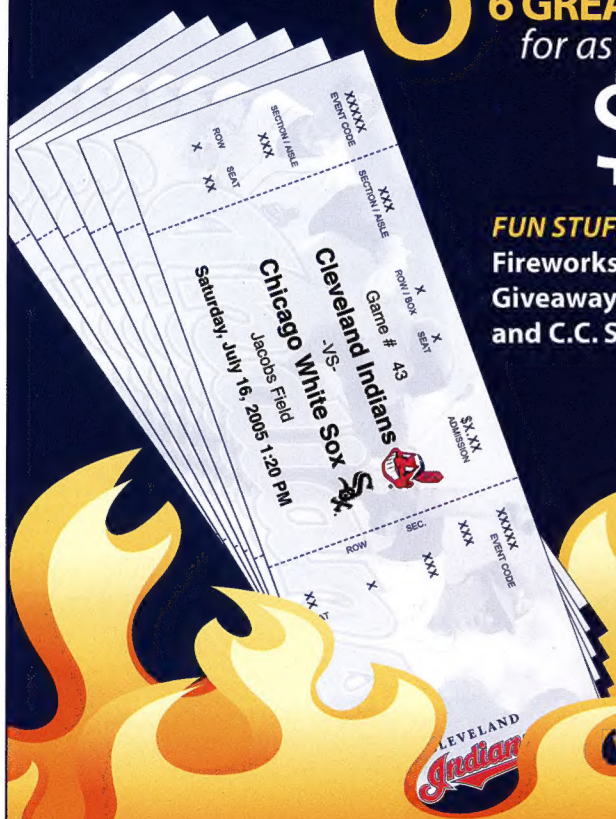
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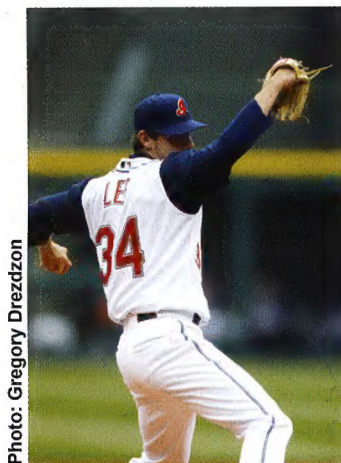


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THE HITTER'S LIFE

Think being a designated hitter is a simple matter of hit and sit? Not so. At least not for Indians DH Travis Hafner, who makes an art of singles, doubles and home runs.

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A LITTLE GIDDYUP

Jose Hernandez has been a workhorse in the Indians' lineup, playing the super utility role. But in the offseason, Hernandez is the one who's working the horses — make that 15 paso fino show horses.

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SIT DOWN, STAND UP, SHOUT SHOUT SHOUT!

At the Jake, every seat's a winner; we know — we've sat in almost all of them. But what's the perfect seat for your perfect day? Read on ...

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The Jackie Robinson Foundation honors Ohio students who have overcome obstacles to achieve their goals.



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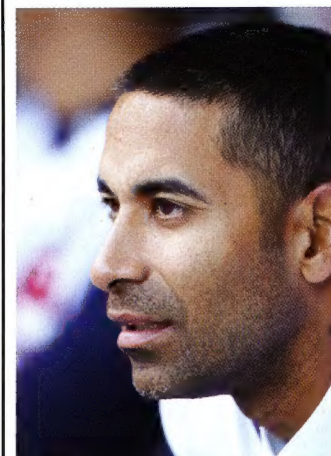


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

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Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Sit Down, Stand Up, page 26



Photo: Gregory Drezdon



No Mystery Here The Indians Care

There is so much going on in the month of June. The Cleveland Indians and the Wives Association will be participating in three great events that I want to share with you.

Mystery Ball

This year we are introducing a new and exciting fund-raiser to Indians fans! Each season the Wives Association proudly organizes a large fund-raiser to support local nonprofit organizations. This year we present to you the Wives Association "Mystery Ball." Each fan can purchase a baseball guaranteed to be signed by a Major League player or coach. Autographs will be coming from many players around the league, and, of course, from our very own Cleveland Indians players! Each ball will be packaged, or wrapped to conceal the autograph, until you open your ball and find whose autograph you just purchased. Is it a Victor Martinez, C.C. Sabathia, or is it a Torii Hunter or Richie Sexson? The best part of this fund-raiser is that everyone wins: You are guaranteed an autograph, which as you know can be priceless, and all of the proceeds will go back to the community. What a better way to spend time and money at Jacobs Field! Keep an eye out for our announcement of the game and times the Mystery Ball will take place, and be sure to be there to get your autograph and to help the Wives Association make a difference in the Cleveland community!

Grand Slam Literacy Program

This month many players and wives will be visiting local Cuyahoga County Public Libraries, in conjunction with FirstEnergy, promoting literacy to our youth. The Grand Slam Literacy Program is an opportunity for the Cleveland Indians to meet with children of our county and to share with them the importance of reading and learning. Each event will include a member of the Cleveland Indians reading a story to the children, answering questions, and ending with an autograph session. For information on all of these events, please visit indians.com.

Cleveland Food Bank Food Drive

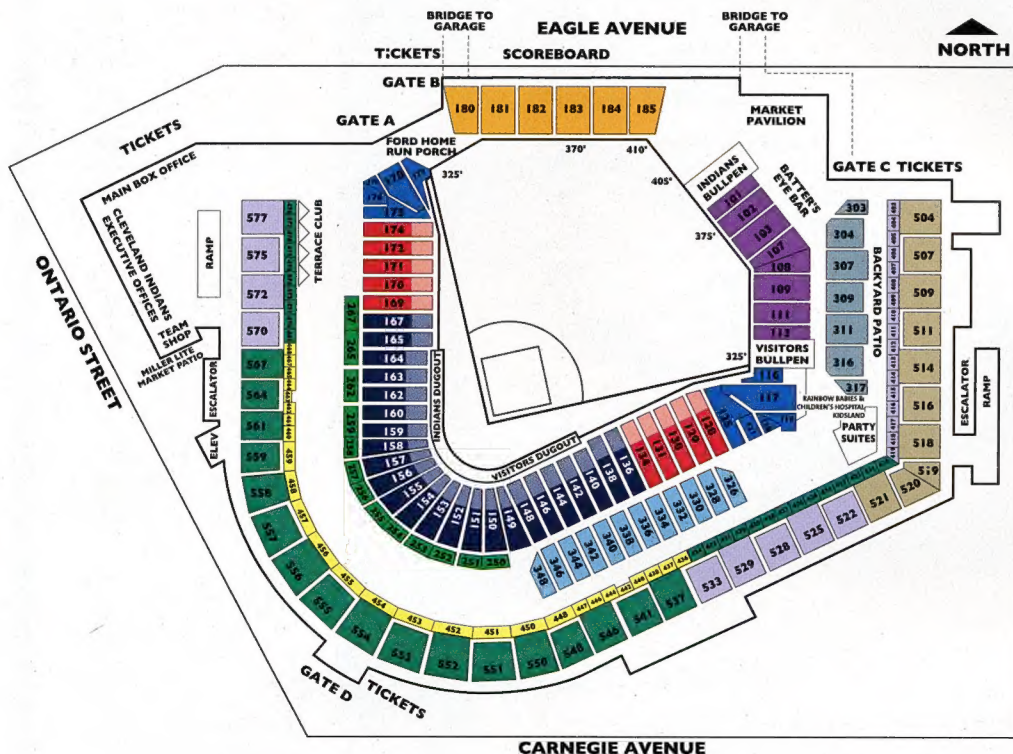
On Sunday, July 17, the Cleveland Indians and the Wives Association will be hosting a food drive at Jacobs Field to benefit the Cleveland Food Bank! Members of the Wives Association will be greeting fans at select gates to collect canned and nonperishable food items that will be given to the Cleveland Food Bank to help out many Cleveland citizens that often go without the luxury of a full meal. In exchange for your generous donations, each fan will receive a player card and a big smile from our wives! We thank you in advance for your support and kindness!

Kate Wedge



The Cleveland
Indians and
the Wives
Association
will be
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in three
great events...

We thank you
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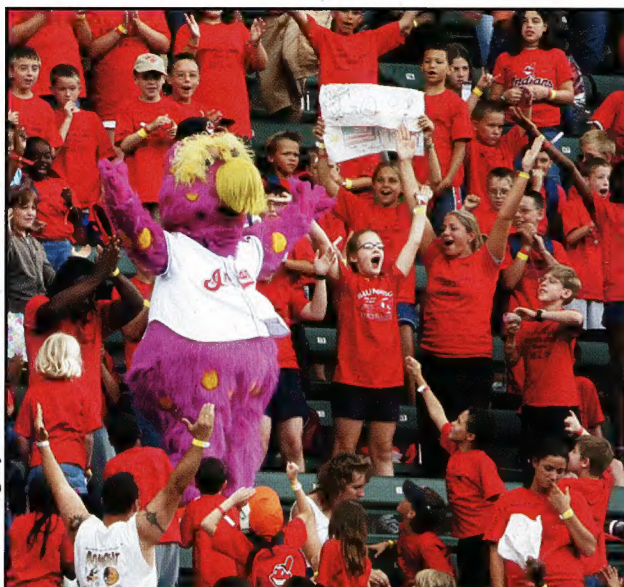


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Summer Camp Day on **July 21**

Back to School Day on **August 18**

Friday Night Bike Night on **September 9**

Scout Day & Salute to Our Protectors Day on **September 11** (Police, Fire, and EMS)

Check out Page 6 for more details on the Tribe's promotional schedule.

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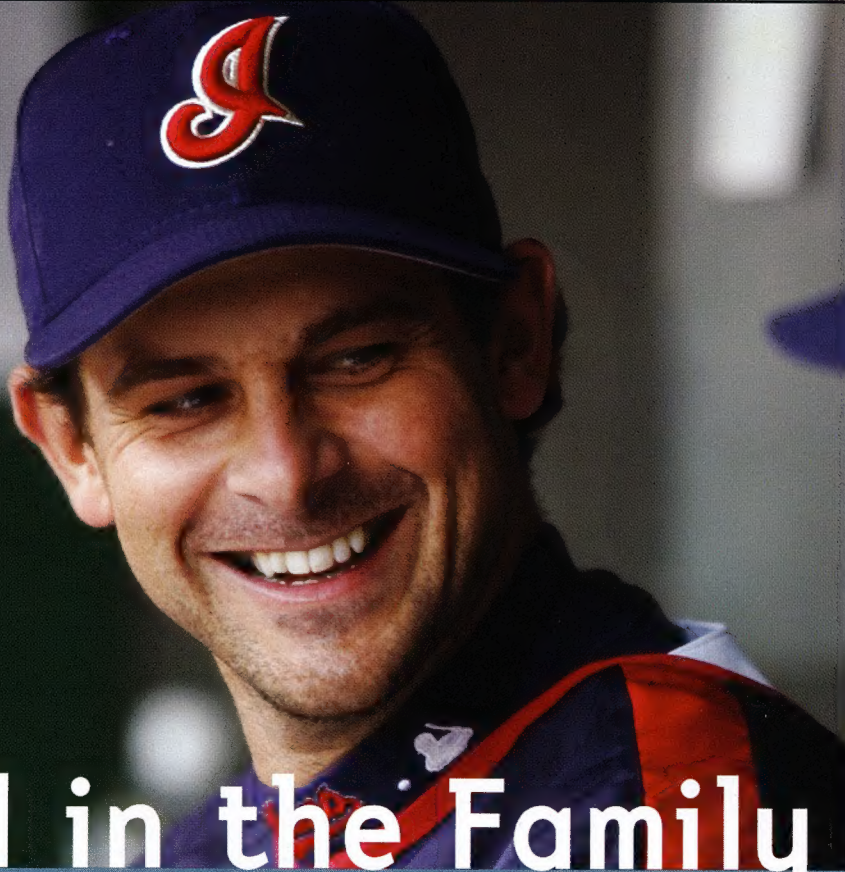
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All in the Family

FOR THE BOONE BOYS

GROWING UP A BOONE MEANT growing up with baseball. Indians third baseman Aaron Boone is the third generation from his family to play the game, joining his brother, Bret, his father, Bob, and his grandfather, Ray. In celebration of Father's Day, Aaron explains what it was like to grow up in the house of a Major Leaguer.

QUESTION: WHAT WAS IT LIKE GROWING UP AROUND BASEBALL?

ANSWER: Awesome. It's a great way to grow up. I was going to work with my dad pretty much since I was 5 years old. My brother and I had our own locker at Veterans Stadium [in Philadelphia]. My dad played on a lot of great teams with a lot of great players. At the time, you didn't realize how lucky you were to get to run around a big-league field and clubhouse, because that's all we knew. I look back and think fondly of my childhood, and that was a big part of it.

QUESTION: WHEN DID YOU GET YOUR OWN LOCKER?

A: In 1980 my brother and I shared a locker. I was 6.

QUESTION: HOW OFTEN DID YOU GO TO THE GAMES?

A: In the summer, pretty much every day.

QUESTION: WERE THERE OTHER KIDS AROUND?

A: In Philly we had Pete Rose Jr. and Ryan Luzinski, Greg Luzinski's son. Tug McGraw's son would come around a lot. Ruben Amaro Jr. would come around a lot. We were buddies.

QUESTION: WHAT'S YOUR BEST FATHER-SON MEMORY?

A: I look back and I'm very grateful that my dad dragged us to the park all the time. I think we knew how to act, which made him take us. It was a great way to grow up and something I'm very appreciative of my dad for doing.

QUESTION: WHAT'S THE BEST FATHER'S DAY GIFT YOU EVER GAVE HIM?

A: I usually get him a nice bottle of wine. That's always a good gift.

QUESTION: HOW OFTEN DO YOU TALK TO HIM NOW?

A: At least a couple times a week. Sometimes it's every day, sometimes it's once a week, and sometimes it's four times a week.

— Jason Lloyd

PAPA QUIZ

When it comes to being a chip-off-the-old-bat, the Cleveland Indians have had some great father-son combinations. From the recent Alomars to the late Bagbys (and don't forget the names Bell and Boone in the dugout), the family bloodlines run deep through Tribe history. So here's a quiz to play with dad. Loser buys the hot dogs.

1. Though Sandy Alomar Sr. never played for the Indians, his sons Sandy Jr. (1990-00) and Roberto (1999-01) were fan favorites during their Jacobs Field days. The Alomar family has won 11 Gold Glove Awards and four Silver Slugger Awards. Which Alomar has the most Gold Gloves?

2. Which Alomar has earned the most Silver Sluggers?

3. Pitchers James Bagby Sr. (1916-22) and James Bagby Jr. (1944-45) each recorded back-to-back 17-win seasons for the Indians. But one Bagby still holds the team record for wins in a season. Who is it and how many victories did he post?

4. Gus and Buddy (1972-78) Bell hold the all-time father-son record for hits at 4,337. They also have a combined 407 homers, which ranks second in Major League history for a father-son combo. Who rang the Bell as the family's hit leader?

5. Who was the dinger king, Gus or Buddy?

— Shane Gullette

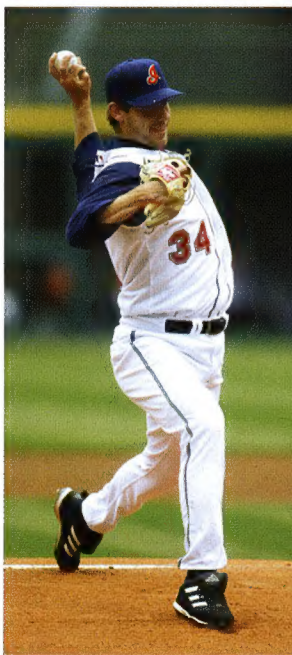
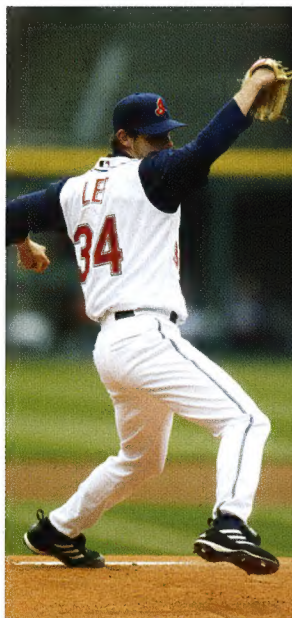
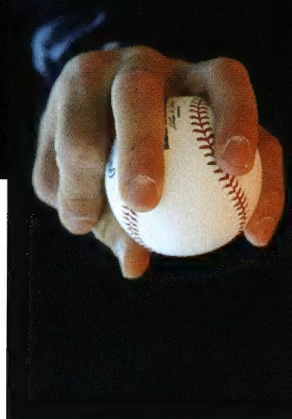
ANSWERS
1) Roberto Alomar owns 10 of the 11 Gold Gloves. 2) Roberto Alomar won all four Silver Slugger awards. 3) James Bagby Sr. won 31 games in 1920. 4) Buddy Bell had more hits than younger Bell with 206 homers. 2,514. 5) Gus edged out the



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

HOW TO: THROW A CHANGE-UP

With Cliff Lee



INDIANS LEFT-HANDER, CLIFF LEE has a good assortment of pitches: fastball, curveball, slider, and change-up. In his first full year as a Major League starter, his repertoire produced a 14-8 record with a 5.43 ERA in 33 starts.

This season, Lee has been quick to go with the slow — relying more on his change-up. “I think I’m throwing it better,” says Lee. “I’m throwing it more for strikes and closer to the plate.” Further developing his change of pace could translate into even greater success on the mound, Lee says.

The pitch: According to Indians pitching coach Carl Willis, the change-up can be one of the most effective pitches in baseball. He has encouraged Lee to throw it more often.

Lee began last season with a 10-1 record, but struggled in the second half. He thinks he became too predictable with his pitches. “I think I was getting into too many patterns where I was throwing my cutter and my fastball too much,” he says.

Lee, who learned how to throw a change-up in high school, thinks using the change-up is helping him get out of those patterns. “It’s a good pitch for me,” he says. “It works well with my harder stuff.”

The grip: This is the key to the pitch’s effectiveness. A change-up is held with three fingers (the ring, middle, and index) and held deeper in the hand than a fastball, which is held

with the ring and middle fingers. “The grip is the biggest thing,” says Lee. “That’s the difference.”

The strategy: Lee can’t pinpoint the number of times he throws the change-up during a game. Much depends on how hitters are reacting to his fastball.

“It depends on how the game is going and how the hitter is swinging the bat,” he says. “I will use it more in some games than others. It all depends on what we think the hitters are looking for in a particular game.”

The secret to throwing a great change-up: The change-up is all about deception. Willis says one of the pitcher’s chief goals is to disrupt a hitter’s timing and balance. When delivered with the same arm speed, leg drive, and release point as a fastball, that’s exactly what a change-up can do.

“That way the hitter thinks it’s a fastball when it’s coming out of the pitcher’s hand,” says Lee. “What you always try to do is throw a change-up so it looks to the batter like you’re throwing a fastball. If you changed anything in your delivery, he’d know it wasn’t a fastball.”

Lee’s fastball is in the low 90s. He says his change-up is about 10 mph slower. Since hitters are usually looking for hard stuff, that difference in speed can throw off a batter’s timing.


“You try to have enough difference between that and your fastball to make the hitter get out in front,” says Lee.

— Steve Herrick



All photos: Gregory Drezdson





THINK BEING A DESIGNATED HITTER
IS A SIMPLE MATTER OF HIT AND SIT?
NOT SO. AT LEAST NOT FOR
INDIANS DH TRAVIS HAFNER,
WHO MAKES AN ART OF SINGLES,
DOUBLES, AND HOME RUNS.

BY JASON LLOYD

the **HITTER'S** *Life*

Photo: Gregory Drezdson

RICHARD HIDALGO DID THE SAME thing the 30,742 fans at Ameriquest Field did when Travis Hafner put bat on ball. He watched it fly. Hidalgo, playing right field for the Texas Rangers, barely turned around and didn't even move his feet during a series in Texas in May when Hafner hit a 419-foot home run to right. It was so high and deep that it wasn't worth chasing.

Hafner watched it, too. But not when he hit it. He watched his fourth home run of the year about an inning later in the clubhouse, as he does with all his at-bats. And why not? As the Indians' designated hitter, most days Hafner has quite a bit of time on his hands.

The great misconception about designated hitters is that they do nothing more than bat three or four times a game, spending the rest of their time sitting, relaxing, and watching the action. That

may be true for some, but Hafner fills his time studying, conditioning, and training.

"I think a lot of guys look at DH-ing like it's a day off," he says. "A lot of guys don't take the right mind-set. They treat it like it's pinch-hitting four times in a game."

Hafner is in his second full season as the Indians' designated hitter. When he was in the Rangers farm system, before he was traded to the Indians, Hafner played first base just about every day and was the DH about once every two weeks. "I can watch video of my at-bats or watch how pitchers are throwing certain guys," Hafner says of the advantages of playing DH. "And I'm able to take swings between at-bats in the batting cage. I've taken to it, and it's something I really enjoy now."

It's odd that a player so young would enjoy being a designated hitter so much. Most players still in their 20s believe being a DH is something you do later in your

JOSE ANTONIO HERNANDEZ: third baseman, first baseman, outfielder, horseman.

The Indians' jack-of-all-trades is an accomplished Major League utility player and an accomplished Major League horseman.

An equine Renaissance man.

A land baron, breeder, part-time trainer, full-time owner, and all-around horse enthusiast who spends most of his offseason in his native Puerto Rico, surrounded by his family, his 10-acre farm, and his horses.

Not just any horses. Show horses. A stable of 15 paso finos, which are among the showiest of show horses, known for their precision in appearance and execution. Stage horses, if you will. Performers.

Not bad for a 14-year veteran of eight Major League organizations, including the Indians twice, of whom one of the following is true: Hernandez is either a baseball player who dabbles in horses, or he's a horseman who dabbles in baseball.

Take your pick.

All Hernandez knows is that it can sometimes be difficult wearing two hats and juggling two lives.

"It can be hard being here in the states, playing baseball, when my horses are being shown in Puerto Rico," says Hernandez during a recent Indians road trip. "In fact, when we get back to Cleveland, there should be a videotape waiting for me of the last show my horses competed in back home."

Make no mistake, baseball pays the bills. It's been Hernandez's profession since he signed with the Texas Rangers in 1987 out of high school in Puerto Rico, where he was a Little League teammate of the New York Yankees' Bernie Williams and an American Legion teammate of Juan Gonzalez.

Since 1987, Hernandez has spent time in the organizations of the Texas Rangers, Cleveland Indians, Chicago Cubs, Atlanta Braves, Milwaukee Brewers, Colorado Rockies, the Cubs again, the Pittsburgh Pirates, Los Angeles Dodgers, and now the Indians again.

Hernandez has been around the block — just as his horses have been around the stable.

Once baseball's long season is over, Hernandez breaks for his island retreat in Puerto Rico. "As soon as the season ends, I go to my farm, and as soon as I walk through the gates there, I forget all about baseball," he says. "For me, that's what's best about raising horses. It helps me relax. It gives me something that allows me to get away from baseball. I'm really at home on my farm."

Hernandez's love affair with horses began as a child in Vega Alta, Puerto Rico, when his grandfather gave him a horse for Christmas. It was love at first ride.

Many years later, when Hernandez was well into his baseball career, an acquaintance wanted to get out of the business of raising paso finos. He asked Hernandez if he wanted to buy three of the horses.

Hernandez bit. And the horse bug bit back.

He's been a one-man paso fino empire ever since. He even has plans to build two houses, barns, stables, and everything else that he'll need on the farm he purchased a couple years ago near his home, which is now in Dorado, Puerto Rico.

One house will be for Hernandez, his wife, Melanie, and their two children, Jolanie and Jose. The other house is for the man who trains Hernandez's horses.

Although paso finos — the name means "fine step" — are bred to be show horses, they still must be trained. During the baseball offseason, Hernandez takes an active role in that process.

Paso fino training begins 22 to 24 months after birth. "The better horses, you can train them in about two months. Some of the others take longer," says Hernandez.

Training begins by getting the horse to accept a saddle, then a rider, then a regular routine of workouts designed to prepare the horse for the show ring.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Stable Mate

QUESTION: What would you have done if you hadn't become a baseball player?

ANSWER: I don't know. Probably go to college and get started in some career. Maybe in the medical field. As a kid I had an uncle who was an X-ray technician, and I would go to work with him a lot, and even help him develop the X-rays. Maybe I would have gotten into something like that.

Q: If your son decides he wants to be a baseball player, what advice would you give him?

A: He plays all the sports now, but if he decided he wanted to concentrate on baseball, I don't think there's any one specific thing I'd tell him. Mostly it would be to tell him the positive and negative things that come with playing baseball.

Q: Did you ever get hurt riding a horse?

A: No. But one time a horse bit me. It wasn't one of my horses. But it bit me on the back of the neck. That didn't feel too good.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Among the most important training techniques are the ones designed to keep the horses calm in the face of the many distractions that can arise during competition, which can draw crowds of 6,000 to 7,000 in Puerto Rico. "We call it 'taking the tickle out of them,'" says Hernandez.

A trainer makes unexpected noises behind the horse, or sudden movements on the periphery of the horse's vision, so it will learn to remain calm and not react to the distractions. The horse must also learn to perform, unaffected, by the proximity of other horses.

Paso fino competitions include an elaborate series of structured exercises. Judges determine the winners, most receiving ribbons and trophies, not cash.

The real money in the sport comes in the breeding, with the horses doing the best in the shows, obviously, earning the biggest stud fees.

Competition requires horses to negotiate a figure-eight pattern through cones, stopping in the middle, and backing up. Another places the horses on a wooden surface to accentuate the sounds of their hooves. The judges then grade the horses by how closely synchronized the sounds are while galloping.

"Paso fino shows are huge in Latin America," says Hernandez, who is also one of the sport's most recognizable owners.

"I'm pretty well known down there as a baseball player, but I try to stay out of the spotlight at the shows," he says. "I'm really just in it as a hobby. Some

of the other owners take it real seriously and get really mad if their horses don't do well. That's one reason why there is no prize money involved.

"Some of the owners are very intense about the competition," he continues. "For me, if my horse wins, that's fine. If not, that's fine too. It's still my horse."

Major Leaguers Ruben Sierra, of the New York Yankees, and Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Ricky Ledee also raise paso finos. "A few times, Ruben and I have had horses in the same show," says Hernandez.

From an original group of three paso finos, Hernandez now has 15. "Some die, I sell some, buy some others," he says, noting that a high-quality mare can sell for up to \$150,000 while a stallion can fetch between \$500,000 and \$1 million.

"At one time, I had about 25," says Hernandez, "but I'd like to keep it at about 15. That's the right size for me."

When he's on the farm, Hernandez works with the horses every day, riding from 9 a.m. until about 2 p.m., "helping out wherever I can," he says.

While many baseball players are uncertain what they will do when they retire, Hernandez's plans are already set.

"Right now, it's hard doing both, playing baseball in the states and raising horses in Puerto Rico," he says. "I'll get more into the horse business full time when I retire."

And isn't that what retirement's for? Horsing around? ■

career, shortly before retirement.

"It is [unusual], but Travis has a great routine and he knows what he has to do," Indians Manager Eric Wedge says. "He's really taken to the role."

During the Indians' grand rebuilding plan, Hafner and Ben Broussard were acquired in separate trades with the assumption that one would take over first base and one probably wouldn't be with the team for long.

"But it's worked out to where we're both able to be on the team now," Hafner says. "I still take ground balls every day and work hard on my defense, but as long as I'm in the lineup, I'm happy."

That's part of the reason Hafner was so quick to accept his role as designated hitter.

"As a young player not being fully established," he says, "once you see your name in the lineup, no matter where it is, you're excited to go out there and get your at-bats and have a chance to prove yourself that day."

TO KNOW PRONK, HAFNER'S nickname, is to understand that he always needs to be moving. Whether it was running sprints up and down the foul lines during Minor League games or his constant stretching during his few opportunities to play first base with the Indians, Hafner is always using some muscle in his massive frame.

"I've kind of always had my own thing," he says. "Even when I'd DH in the Minor Leagues, I'd run back and forth to the foul pole. I think people thought I was nuts. When I would be at first base, I was constantly stretching. I guess I have this fear of stiffening up."

"People would always impersonate me playing first doing all the stretching. I think most DHs probably don't do a lot of stuff, but I'm always running around trying to do something to stay loose."

He considers it the biggest key to being a good designated hitter. It's why he does laps around the clubhouse between at-bats, or why he'll hit in the cage in the inning before an at-bat. Ballparks in Kansas City, Anaheim, Seattle, Detroit, and Texas have batting cages near the

dugout for the visiting team to use during games. And, of course, Hafner has the same luxury at Jacobs Field.

"Some places it's tough," he says. "Like you go to Boston, they don't have a cage and there's not really a lot of room to run."

Hafner doesn't like treadmills, so he runs sprints in cramped clubhouses across the country.

"It's tough in April to DH because the weather is so cold. It's really tough to stay loose," he says. "You have to do a lot of running around the clubhouse. I'm running sprints around the table in the clubhouse and people are looking at me like I'm nuts."

When the Indians are batting, Hafner is always watching from the dugout. When they're in the field, he's in the clubhouse stretching, watching video of his previous at-bats, or watching the game on television.

In all, Hafner estimates he spends about six innings in the clubhouse and three in the dugout.

"I always watch when we're at the plate to see how pitchers pitch guys on our team," he says. "I'll watch certain situations to see what he's throwing and try to pick up tendencies from the pitcher. Then the inning before I'm up, I'll go to the cage. You kind of have the approach you want to take on a pitcher and you try to work on that."

Even with a great example like hitting coach, Eddie Murray, a Gold Glove first baseman early in his career who turned into a tremendous designated hitter later on, especially as a key component to the Indians' 1995 World Series team, Hafner hasn't turned to anyone else for advice on how to DH. He's always had his own system and it's worked well for him. It's hard to argue with the results — last year he batted more than .300 and drove in more than 100 runs in his first full season as a designated hitter.

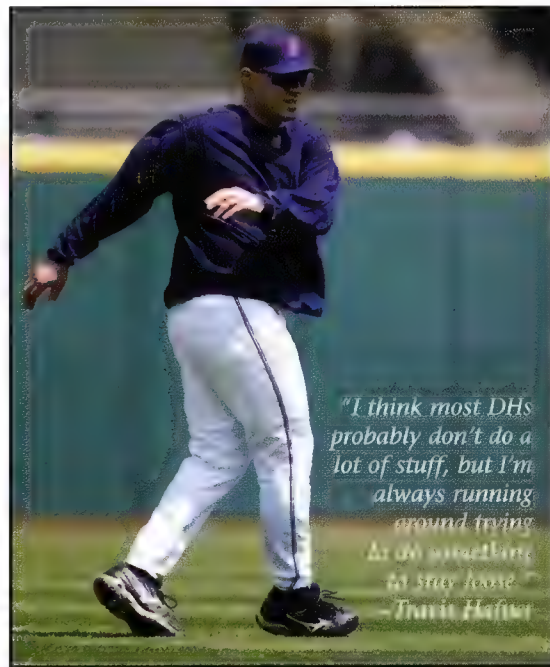
Now Pronk has a following. His 4-year-old nephew, Tanner, watches every Indians game on television and wants to be just like his big uncle. Right down to the position.

"He plays Tee Ball, and one day he went up to the park and said he was going to DH that day," Hafner says.

"The coach looked at him and thought he was nuts."

While he still works out at first base before games, fielding ground balls, and gets time in the field during interleague play, Hafner is in no rush to go back to playing the field full time. At least not now.

"I think maybe it would depend on the year or the situation of the club," he says. "If I'm needed to play first, I'd enjoy it. But I'm pretty happy now with the role that I'm in." ■



Photos: Gregory Drezdron



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

BALLPARK PURISTS

The Pro Says ...

Ben Lamb started as an usher more than a decade ago. Today, he's the supervisor of the Host Greeters, and he knows The Jake inside and out. So where does the pro go? Sections 453-455. He likes any spot in the 450s, between first and third base, where you get a good view of the action. The seats are tiered more steeply up here. We like Section 453, a few rows back. You're high enough to look over the railing, not through it, and it's behind home plate, so you get to look straight down on the batter. The bird's-eye view is perfect for newbies who can easily follow the ball. Plus, it's a sociable section — at \$25, the seats fill up pretty fast, the beer and food guys keep a steady pace through here, and, best of all, the sun's behind you from late afternoon on.

The Dugout Feel

Discover the allure of the legendary Dugout Suite and its ticket to the action. A private entrance. A downhill trek into the bowels of The Jake. Then, there you are: at your own dugout, right between the home team and the visitors. Your eyes are level with the diamond. And for those two elite Suites, Dugout Suites 1 and 10, that are next to the dugouts, only a thin sheet of plexiglass separates you from the team. (Dugout

Suite single game rentals are available by calling 216.420.HITS.)

Obsess Much?

Section 165, near the front, may be the perfect seat. You might as well be the third base coach — you're just a few yards from the players, and steps away from the Indians' dugout. You'll be able to smell the fresh-cut grass, hear a little smack talk among players and get some diamond dirt on your shirt.

But if you want great seats and the comfort of being under cover, go for the front of Section 262. You'll be facing third base and still have a sweet view.

GREAT VALUE

Sit to Impress

If you really want to get your clients, friends, or family excited, rent Party Suite 1994 (the year Jacobs Field opened). Big enough for 40 people, Suite 1994 is tucked into the right-field line; it's an awesome spot to soak in the view of the crowd, field, scoreboard, and the bleachers directly across the field. The Jake will supply food and drinks, and, of course, there's comfortable seating and a private restroom.

If you want to be in the sun soaking up the atmosphere, go for the Club Seats. Section 340 faces the scoreboard — and Ballpark favorites, such as hot dogs and Cracker Jack are delivered for free right to your seat. The Club

SIT DOWN, STAND UP, shout! shout!

At The Jake, there isn't a bad seat in the house. We know — we've sat in almost all of them. But what's the perfect seat for your perfect day? Here's our picks ...

BY AMBER MATHESON



FIRST DATE

Lounge, where the exceptional and diverse cuisine is free as well, is just for Club Seat Ticket Holders. If that's your priority, find a seat near the back of any Club section. You'll be in the shade, and it's a short distance to the air-conditioned refuge of the Lounge and ice cream, plus the best indoor sports bar in town.

Up Close and Personal

Go for the Baseline Box seats in Section 134 (the first five rows). You're not behind home plate, but you're just as close to the field. Foul balls are plentiful and you can see right into the visitors bullpen.

Diamond In The Rough

The Bleacher section is your oyster this summer — pile everyone in the car and get 'em in the door at gate B, close to the parking structure. A fun and entertaining place to take in the game, you can join Ballpark celebrity drum master John Adams in Section 183, rows W, X, and Y, and hang out with the super-fun, rowdy bunch that holds down the outfield. You have the whole Ballpark spread out before you and the hot, new Batter's Eye Bar is a quick jaunt away. If you're bringing a first-timer, go for Section 185 and get the same centerfielder perspective you'd get at home.

SOMETHING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Every Day is Fun For Kids Day

Unleash your child's energy in Section 119. The section is flanked by KidsLand, Kid's Meals, the Kid's Shop, and Make Your Own Slider by Build-A-Bear Workshop. Plus, you've got a shot at catching a foul ball — so bring your mitt. The seats allow easy access in and out and are close to the stairs for emergency restroom runs.

Fan Maker

If you're aiming to create a new family tradition of Indian superfandom, take Section 140. You're right behind first base, so you have a captivating view, but you're in the shade. This area also has an up-close-and-personal view of the scoreboard. And during any downtime, you can take your kids over to the Make Your Own Slider that's right behind you. For the whole experience, sun and all, opt for sitting in the front of nearby Section 138.

Tire the Kids Out

Sitting near the top of Section 504 will give you something to talk about — and the view is worth the climbing of 103 steps with hot dogs and pops in hand. These seats are pretty extreme — they're in the far corner of the upper deck, and they're always just \$6. If you're bringing the kids for a fun, conversational night out, without getting too serious about the game, this is a great spot.

Impress your 16-year-old cell-phone-toting daughter

Rent a Suite for her sweet 16, and before she can say a word, tell her about the food, the prestige, and the

boys she'll be able to invite (and how awesome they'll think she is for holding her party at The Jake).

Impress your Little Leaguer

Surprise 'em with seats right against the bullpen. Section 101 puts you in perfect position for a peek at Indians pitchers as they warm up.

DATING

First Date

The Mezzanine Level is your best bet for an affordable date, especially on Fireworks Nights. Section 311, rows A through E, will put you right in the middle of the action. At \$15 each, they're inexpensive and still have a good view. You'll get some sun, but there's an ice cream stand nearby to help you cool down. There's a handy ledge facing the field where you can stand with a drink and stretch your legs. Afterward, buy her something cute at the souvenir stand nearby.

CROWDING AROUND

Best Place to Storm a Section

Take 'em to Sections 519-520 and fill the place with your personal peanut gallery — it's in the corner of the Ballpark and you can really anchor the space and get some good energy going; plus, the seat setup is great for mingling.

Best Hot Spot

Spend the afternoon hanging out on the Market Pavilion near the hip Batter's Eye Bar, the new outdoor full-service sports bar featuring flat-panel TVs and a dynamic view of center field. Get in early — the Batter's Eye Bar is open at 4:30 for viewing batting practice through the end of August. Your choice of seats nearby? Section 101 and 102 give you the quickest access to the bar. ■

SO YOU WANNA CATCH SOMETHING?

We're not going to claim the power of controlling where the next zinger's going to land. But here are some of your best bets.

A foul ball: Sections 116 or 117. The "rocket shots" barrel into Sections 148 and 149, so stay on your toes.

A home run ball: Section 113 puts you near the visitors' bullpen and gives you a great shot at catching a home run. Stay in the first five rows of the Bleacher section, preferably Section 182, and you might get a long-range homer.

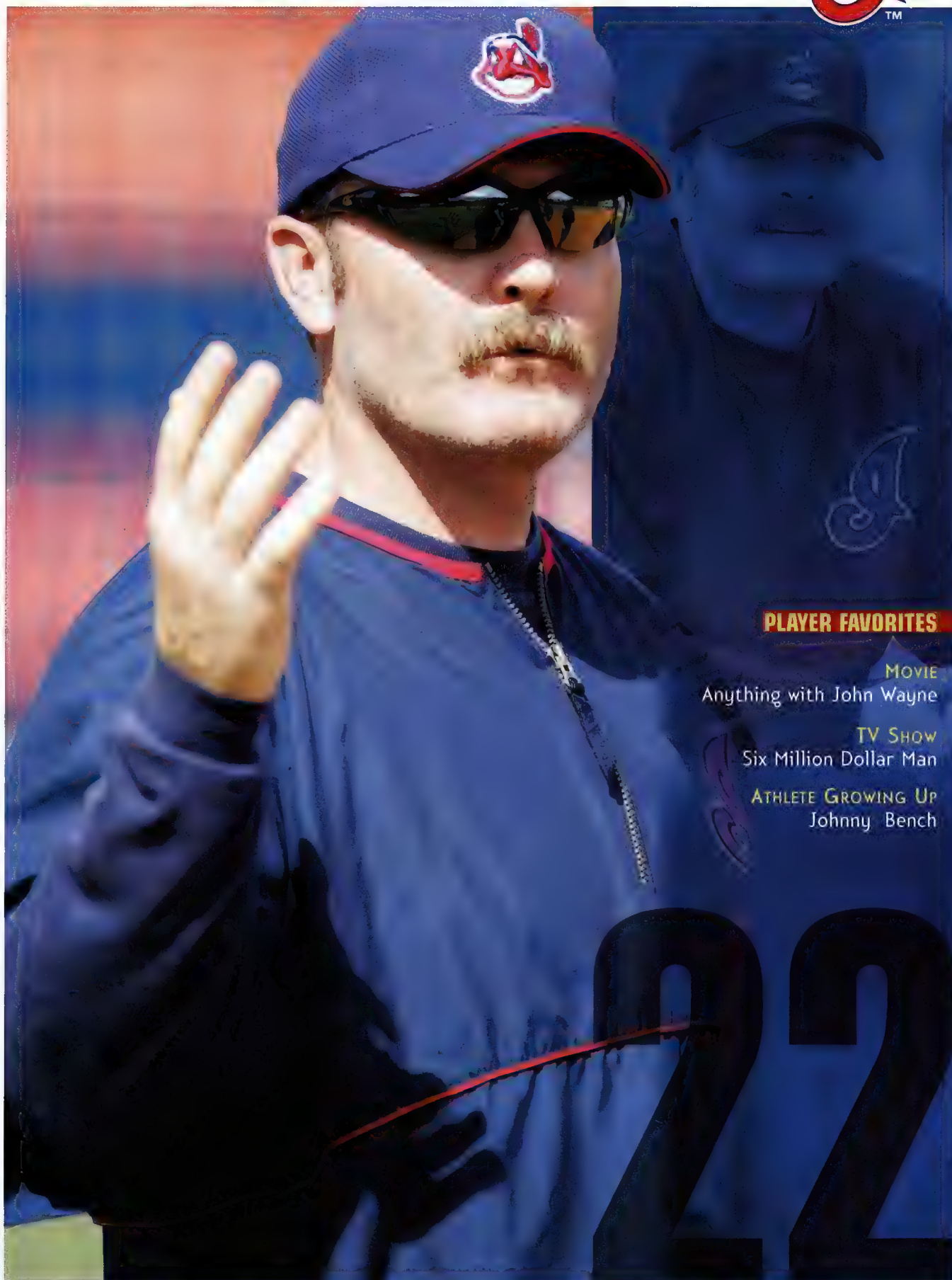
A broken bat: Sections 148-149.

Keep your eyes peeled and your glove open — but we're not promising anything more than a great time!



STORM A SECTION

All photos: Gregory Drezdron



PLAYER FAVORITES

MOVIE

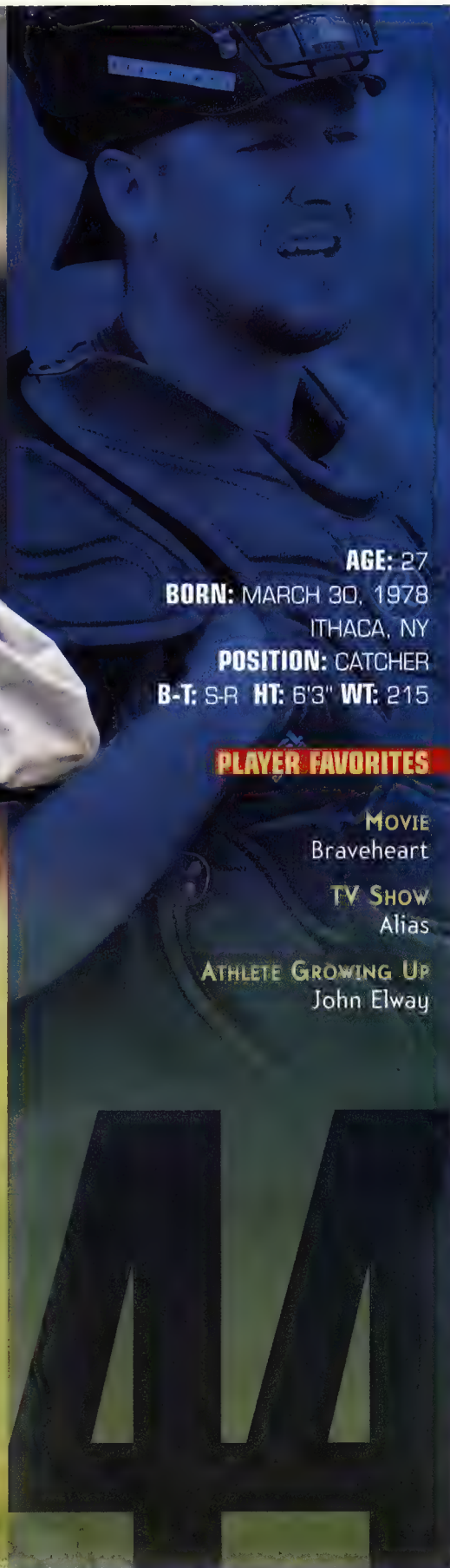
Anything with John Wayne

TV SHOW

Six Million Dollar Man

ATHLETE GROWING UP

Johnny Bench



AGE: 27

BORN: MARCH 30, 1978

ITHACA, NY

POSITION: CATCHER

B-T: S-R **HT:** 6'3" **WT:** 215

PLAYER FAVORITES

MOVIE

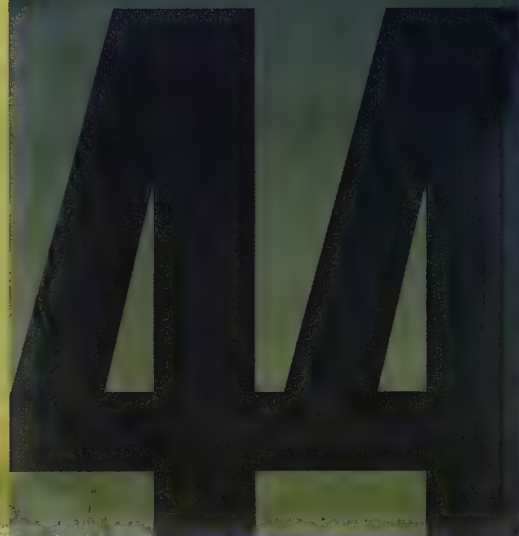
Braveheart

TV SHOW

Alias

ATHLETE GROWING UP

John Elway





RONNIE BELLIARD



AGE: 30

BORN: APRIL 7, 1975

BRONX, NY

POSITION: INFIELDER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 5'8" **WT:** 197

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

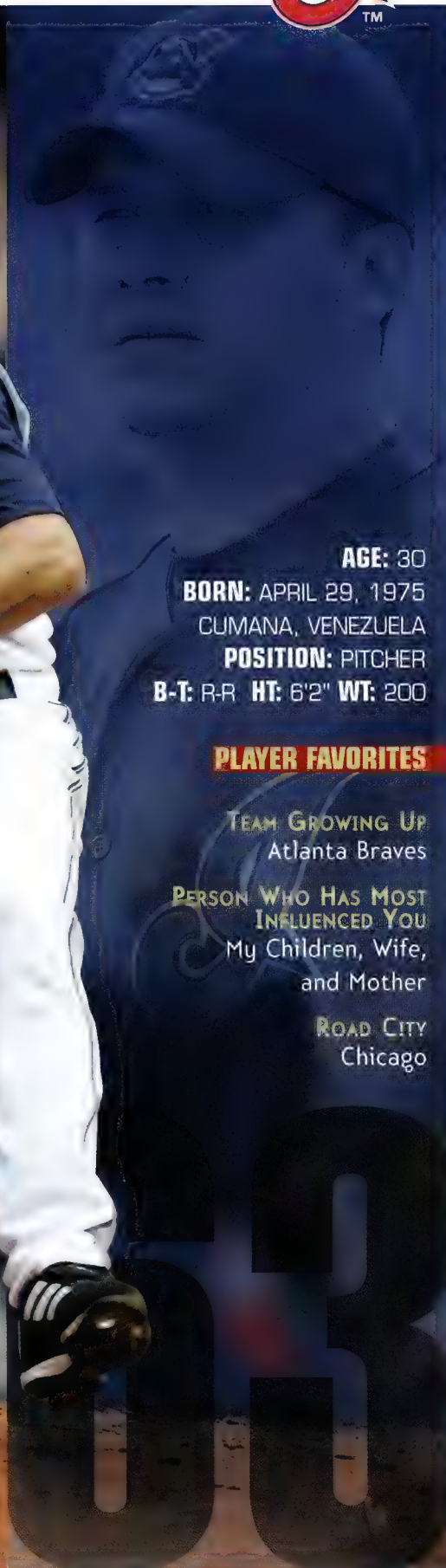
Atlanta Braves

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

My Father

ROAD CITY

New York



AGE: 30

BORN: APRIL 29, 1975

CUMANÁ, VENEZUELA

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 200

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

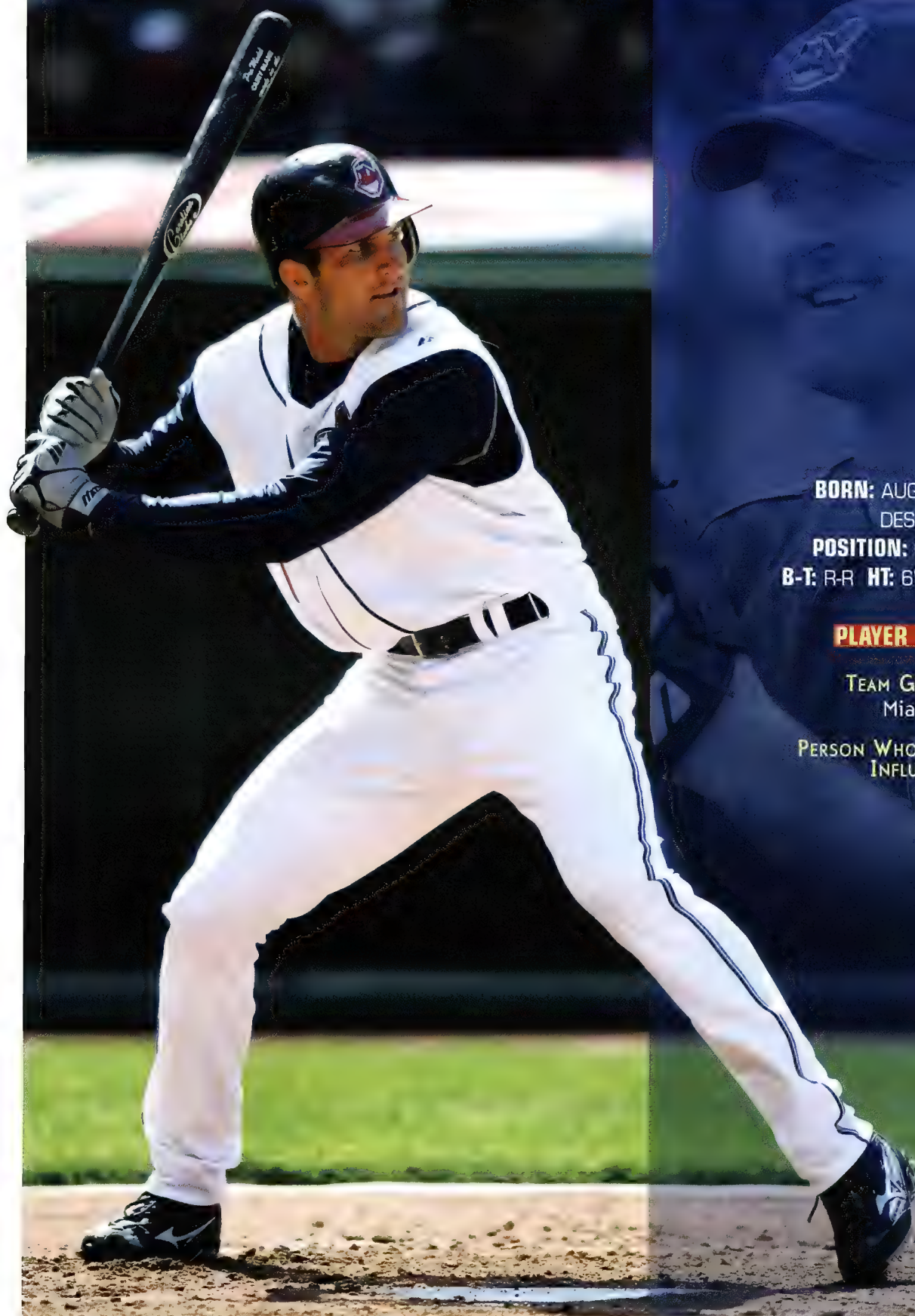
Atlanta Braves

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

My Children, Wife,
and Mother

ROAD CITY

Chicago



AGE: 31

BORN: AUG. 23, 1973

DES MOINES, IA

POSITION: OUTFIELDER

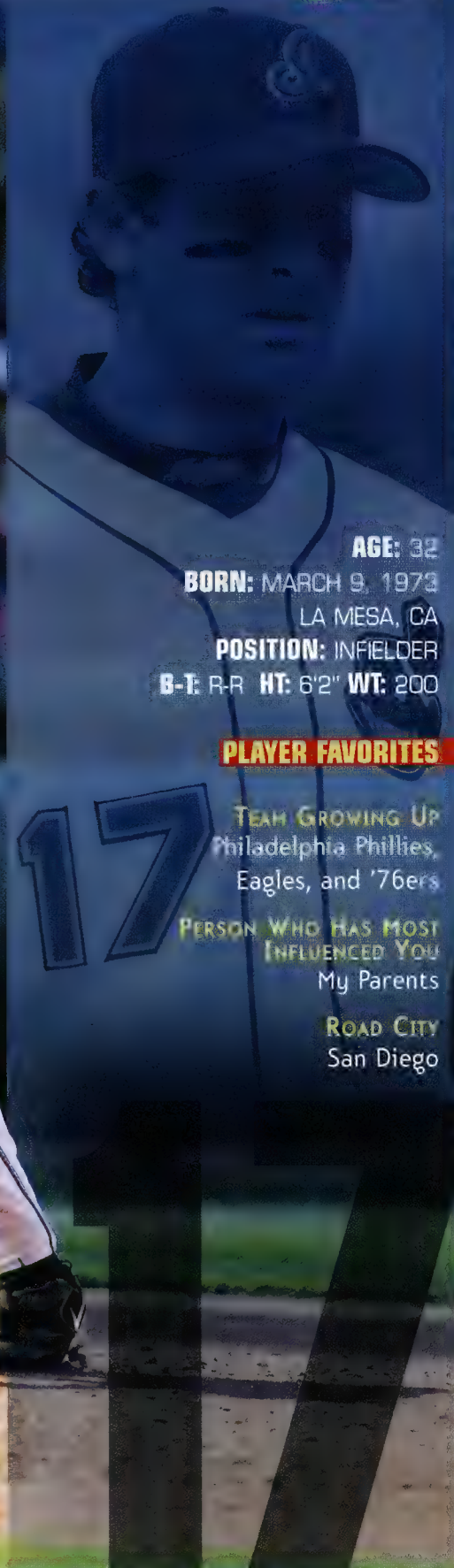
B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 210

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Miami Dolphins

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Father

ROAD CITY
Seattle



AGE: 32

BORN: MARCH 9, 1973

LA MESA, CA

POSITION: INFILDER

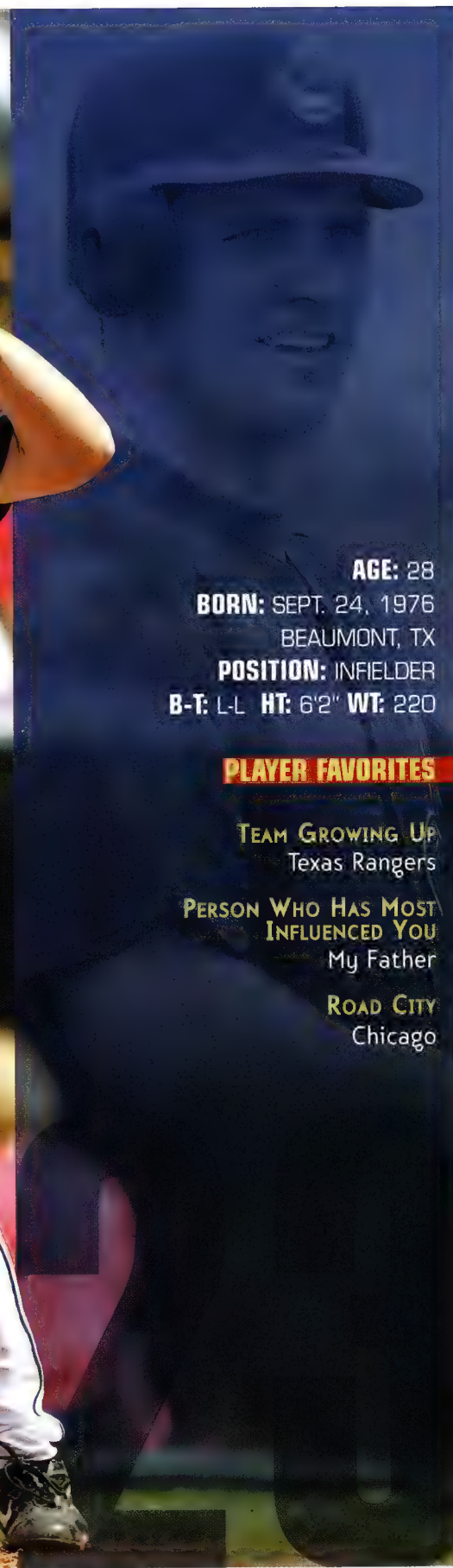
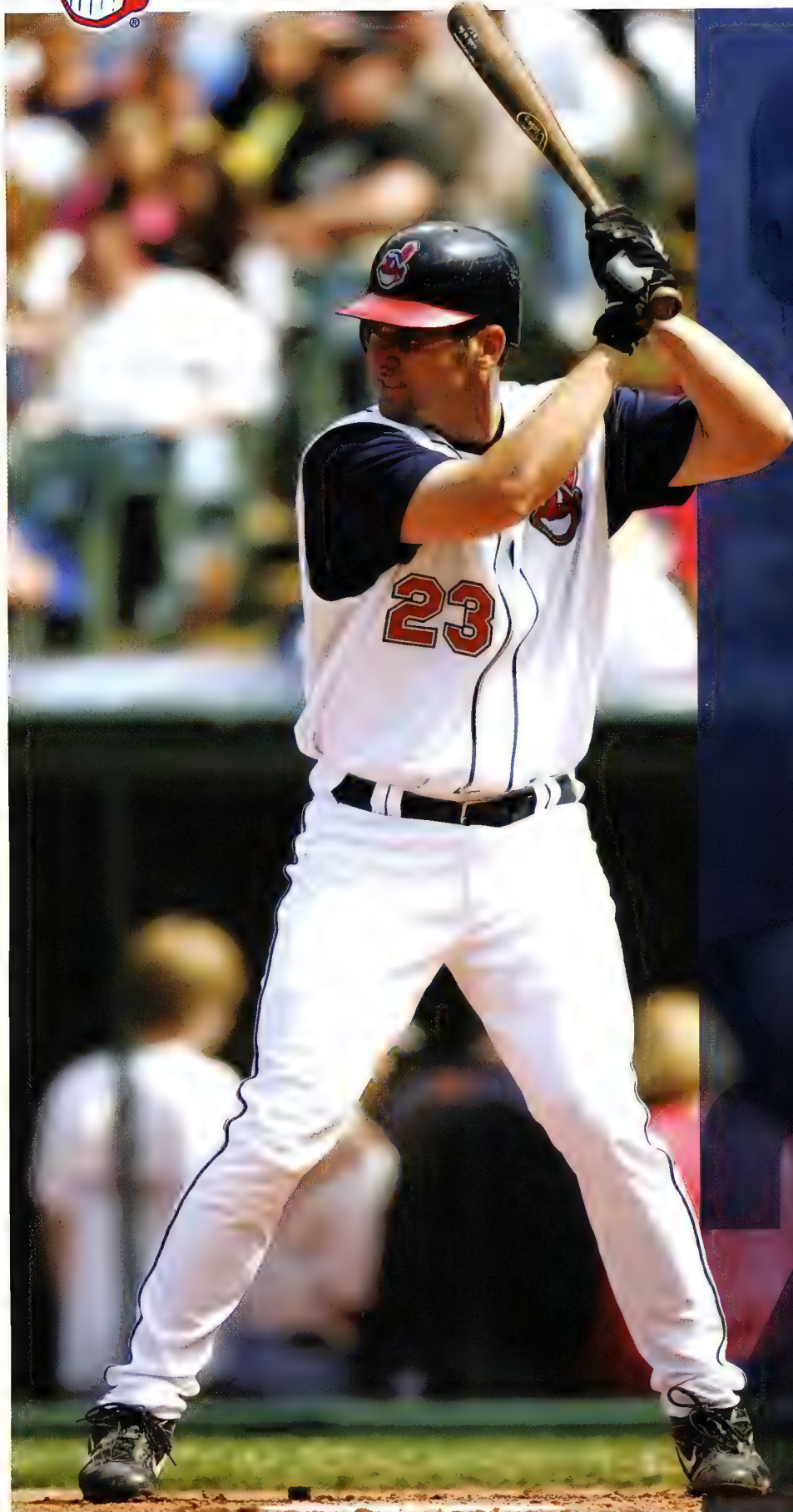
B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 200

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Philadelphia Phillies,
Eagles, and '76ers

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Parents

ROAD CITY
San Diego



AGE: 28

BORN: SEPT. 24, 1976

BEAUMONT, TX

POSITION: INFILDER

B-T: L-L **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 220

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

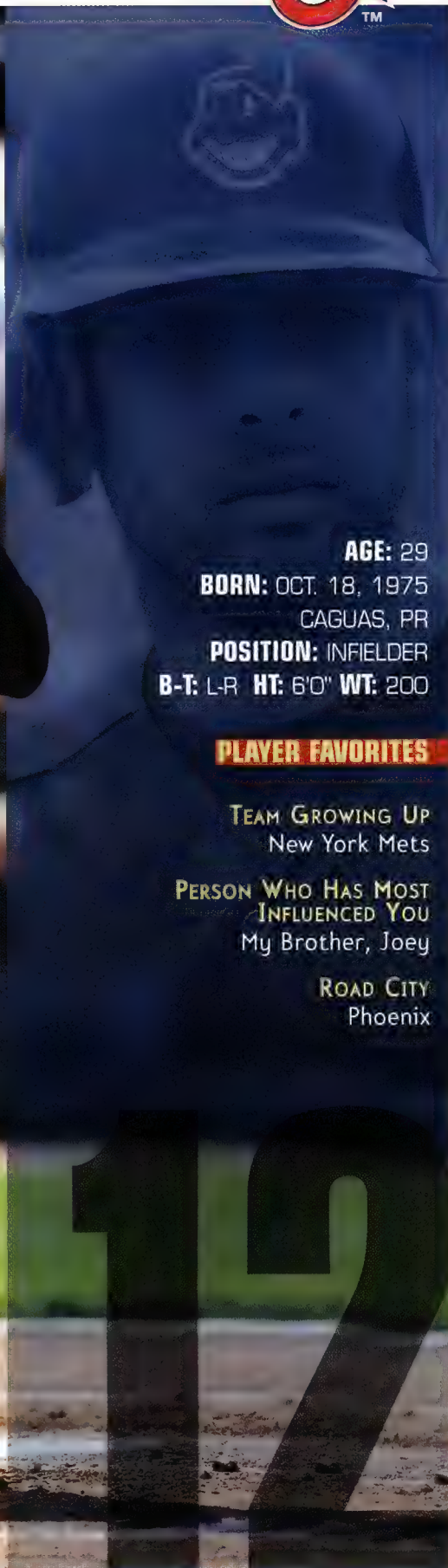
Texas Rangers

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

My Father

ROAD CITY

Chicago



AGE: 29

BORN: OCT. 18, 1975

CAGUAS, PR

POSITION: INFILDER

B-T: L-R **HT:** 6'0" **WT:** 200

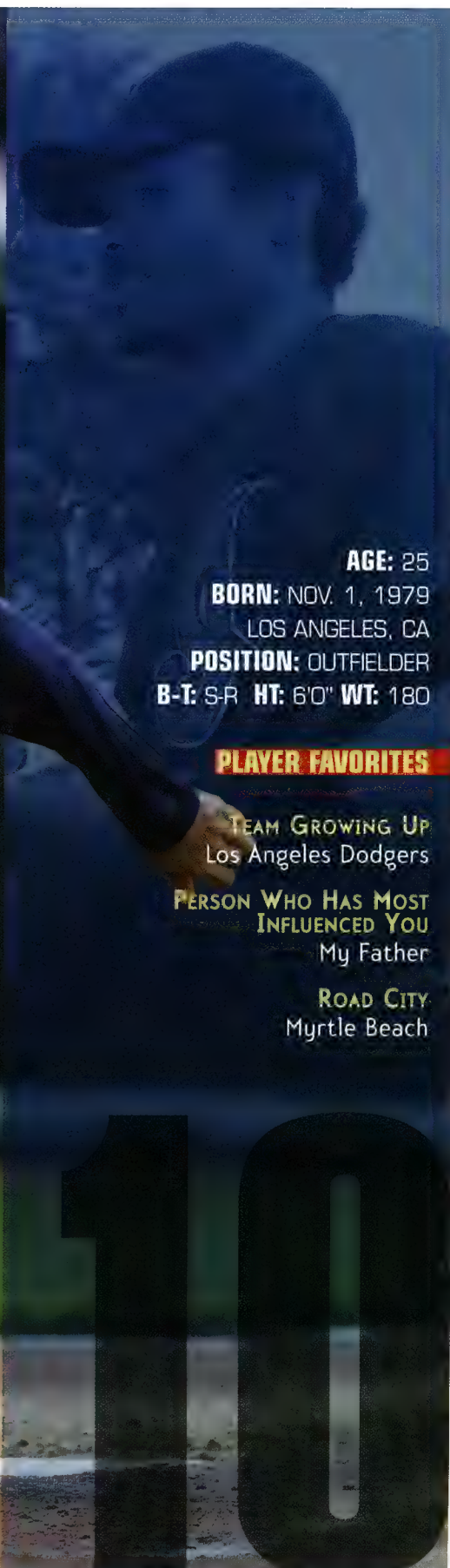
PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
New York Mets

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Brother, Joey

ROAD CITY
Phoenix

12



AGE: 25

BORN: NOV. 1, 1979

LOS ANGELES, CA

POSITION: OUTFIELDER

B-T: S-R **HT:** 6'0" **WT:** 180

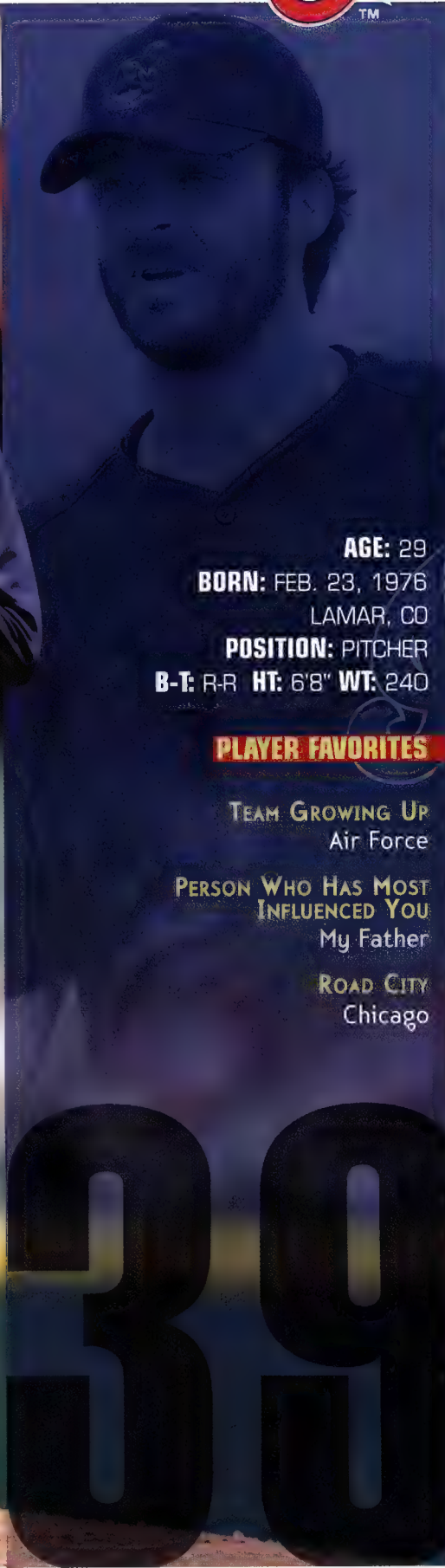
PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Los Angeles Dodgers

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Father

ROAD CITY
Myrtle Beach

10



AGE: 29

BORN: FEB. 23, 1976
LAMAR, CO

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'8" **WT:** 240

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Air Force

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Father

ROAD CITY
Chicago

39

All photos: Gregory Drezdson



Other programs through the Indians Community Outreach include:

FIRSTENERGY GRAND SLAM LITERACY PROGRAM

In conjunction with the Cuyahoga County Library System, players, their wives, and front office staff visit various libraries during the summer months to motivate students to read. Indians personnel come and read their favorite books to children in elementary school.

"They really get excited to see and hear the players," says Kim Merryman, public relations director for the library. "This program really provides the human interaction kids want, and they get a chance to learn while meeting their favorite Indians players."

KEYBANK HIGH ACHIEVERS PROGRAM

As a participant in the High Achievers Program, Principal Bob Trapp, of Olmsted Falls High School, has the opportunity to reward deserving students with two free tickets to Indians home games. The Cleveland Indians provide the school, along with many others throughout the area in grades 4 through 12, with approximately 70 tickets a season. Trapp distributes the tickets to the Students of the Month for their outstanding classroom work. "The students seem really excited when they win tickets and it's also a nice surprise," he says.

KeyBank and the Indians have provided nearly 200,000 tickets to deserving students since 1994. In addition, through the KeyBank Charitable Complimentary Ticket Program, almost 75,000 free tickets have been distributed to assist the underprivileged, seniors, and the disabled since Jacobs Field opened.



Brenda and Ben Broussard have a great time reading to kids and their families at the Brooklyn Library branch.

PLAIN DEALER TRIBE REPORTER FOR A DAY

For Dana Raponi, working as the Tribe Reporter for a Day was "definitely an eye-opening experience." Designed for high school students considering journalism careers, the program gives 25 essay-contest winners the opportunity to get behind the scenes of an Indians reporter's workday.

Participants choose to be a photographer, sports writer, or television journalist. Raponi and her group toured the Ballpark, attended a press conference with Manager Eric Wedge, and watched batting practice before the game. (The highlight was when Omar Vizquel came over to say "Hi.") "It was a once-in-lifetime experience," she says.

BOONE'S BUDDIES PRESENTED BY MEDICAL MUTUAL

Members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland and their families will receive tickets and food-and-beverage coupons, and sit along the third base line to cheer on Boone every Saturday during the 2005 season.

— Beth Stallings

THE BOOK BOYS

Indians players participate in the FIRSTENERGY GRAND SLAM LITERACY PROGRAM each year to motivate kids to read. But what books have these Tribe sluggers turning the page?



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

JODY GERUT:

*Flags of our Fathers:
Heroes of Iwo Jima,
James Bradley and
Ron Powers*

CASEY BLAKE:

*Tuesdays with Morrie,
Mitch Albom*

BEN BROUSSARD:

*Angels and Demons,
Dan Brown*

Join THE CLUB

CLUB SEAT TICKET holders are getting a chance to experience Tribe games in ways fans have until now only dreamed about. Imagine all-you-can-eat food in your seats or in a sports bar atmosphere while still having a perfect view of the game.

Yes, the laminated menus have disappeared from the Club Seats, but so has the need to bring your wallet. That's right, hot dogs, soda, popcorn, and other traditional Ballpark items, delivered by vendors, are now free in the Club Seats.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

In addition, ticket holders can now enjoy complimentary food and non-alcoholic beverages in the Club Lounge, where almost 20 large, flat-screen TVs ensure you'll never miss a single moment of the action. And besides the regular Ballpark food, the Club Lounge offers a specialized carving station, pasta bar, daily international specials, and ice cream.

"You can go in there and never pull your wallet out," says Bill Lavelle, Indians Director of Luxury Seating. "That's a pretty cool deal." He added that this is a great comfort for companies that give Club Seat tickets to employees and clients. "Now employers can give

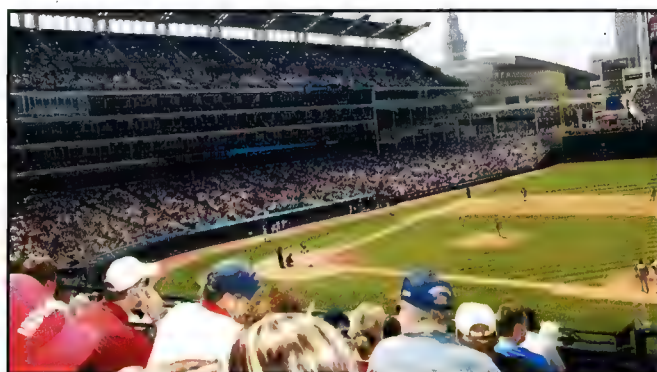


Photo: Gregory Drezdson

their workers and customers a \$75 ticket and not worry about them having to pay for anything," explains Lavelle.

"I think it's a terrific value," says John Betchal, who has owned Season Tickets in the Club Seats for 10 years. "You get the combination of great baseball, a comfortable seat, along with blue-ribbon food."

Also new this season are Chalk Talks, which provide Club Seat holders an exclusive, inside look at the Tribe. Four times throughout the season, press-conference style Chalk Talks will be held for Club Seat ticket holders on a first-come, first-served basis.

Additionally, Club Seat members can meet the players in a re-laxed setting at the Tribe Celeb-riety Cook-off. The free event occurs once a season with five or six Indians players and/or coaches cooking and serving their favorite recipes to Club Seat owners. "The players really enjoy doing it," says Lavelle.

Last year, participants included Eric Wedge, Victor Martinez, and Matt Miller.

"That's just pure fun," Betchal says. "It's a variety of players' favorites and it is interesting to match the player's personality to the food."

Sound good so far? Well it's about to get even better with the ticket-buying options offered this season. Fans have the option of purchasing tickets for 40 games at a one-season commitment or they can purchase 81 games (a full season), with either a one-year or a three-year commitment. "The longer the commitment you make, the lower the price of a ticket," Lavelle says. Tickets

for Club Seating can also be purchased on an individual game basis for groups of 10 or more people.

With new signage, furniture and flat-screen TVs constantly airing

the in-house feed in the lounge, "fans never lose a feel to the game," Lavelle assures. The seating runs on the 200 level, down the first base line and halfway into right field.

"It's a perfect view and a great way to experience the game," Lavelle says.

— Beth Stallings

"The longer the commitment you make, the lower the price of the ticket," says Bill Lavelle, Indians Director of Luxury Seating.

A SUITE DEAL

For fans who want an exclusive experience without losing a feel for the game, Suites are a smart choice. The game can be viewed from inside the climate-controlled Suite — with its two TVs, refrigerator and wet bar — or out on the private balcony.

Twelve tickets and three parking passes are included with the purchase of the Suite. In addition, the Suites offer a private rest room, catering by Well Bread, which includes a dessert cart and hot-roller grills for hot dogs, a concierge, and a personal Suite attendant.

Suite holders receive discounts at the Team Shop and promotional giveaways during each game. They also have an opportunity to taste-test new Ballpark foods, which not only gives them a chance to have a part in Ballpark decisions, but also lets holders meet other Suite holders and allows a great networking opportunity.

And as a thank you, the Tribe hosts Suite Holder Workout Days in which Suite holders are treated like Indians players for the day, dressing in the locker rooms, having their names announced as they run out onto the field, and then hitting off Indians alums. "It's a day to be a Major Leaguer," says Lavelle.

Suites can be reserved in full- or partial-season plans, including 81 games (full season), 40 games (half season), 20 games, and the newly introduced nine game outfield Suite. "This new option was created to give almost everyone an opportunity to explore the Suites as an option," explains Lavelle. Even small businesses can take advantage of the nine-game plan to offer clients a unique experience. "It's an upscale service with endless rewards," Lavelle promises. — Beth Stallings





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

July 4th Picnic in the Park

Have your
July 4 Celebration
at Jacobs Field.

Day/Night Split Doubleheader
1:05pm and 7:05pm

DOLLAR DOG DAY!



Hot Dogs just \$1
both games



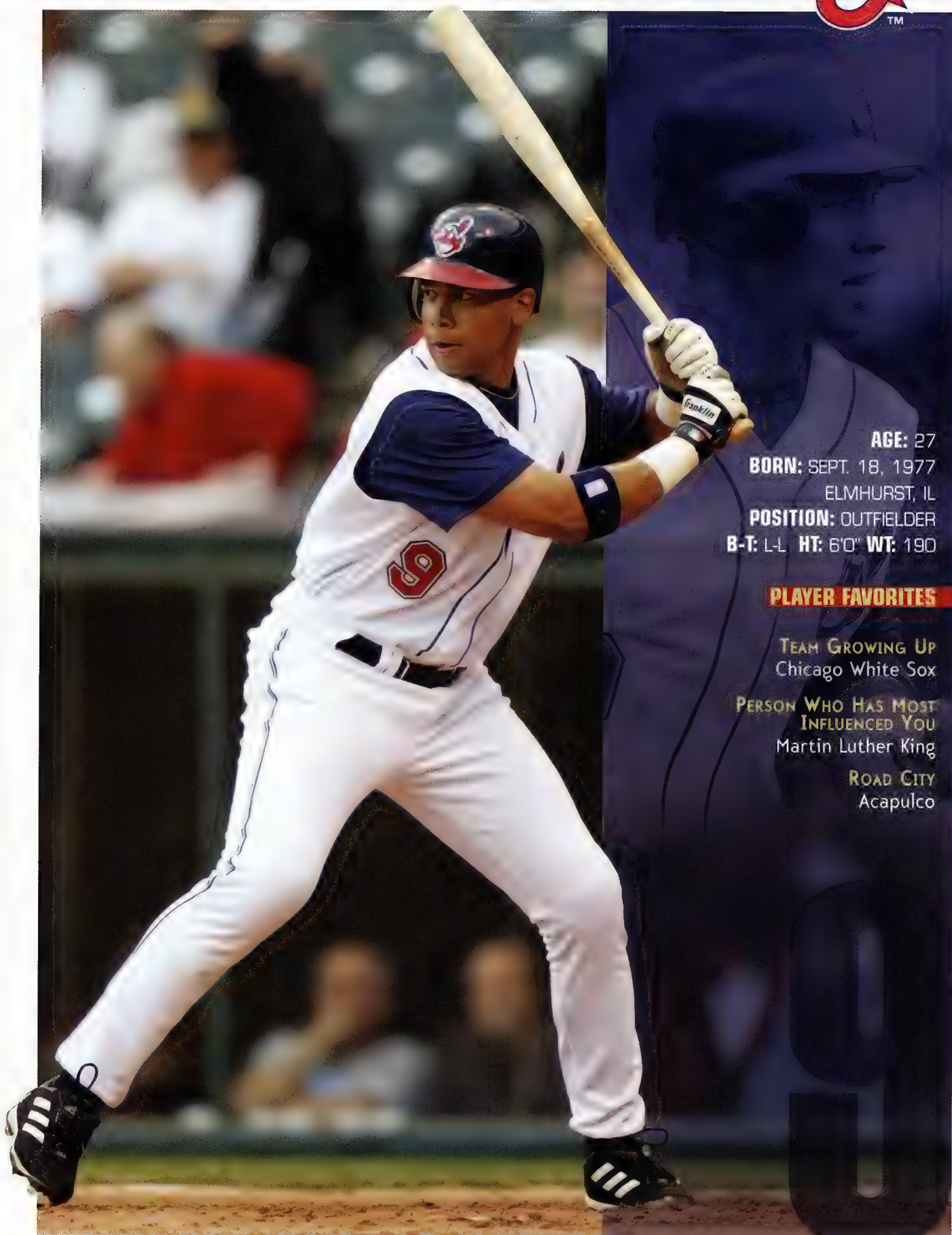
VS



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

FEATURING A SPECTACULAR CELEBRATION

Fireworks Extravaganza!



AGE: 27

BORN: SEPT. 18, 1977

ELMHURST, IL

POSITION: OUTFIELDER

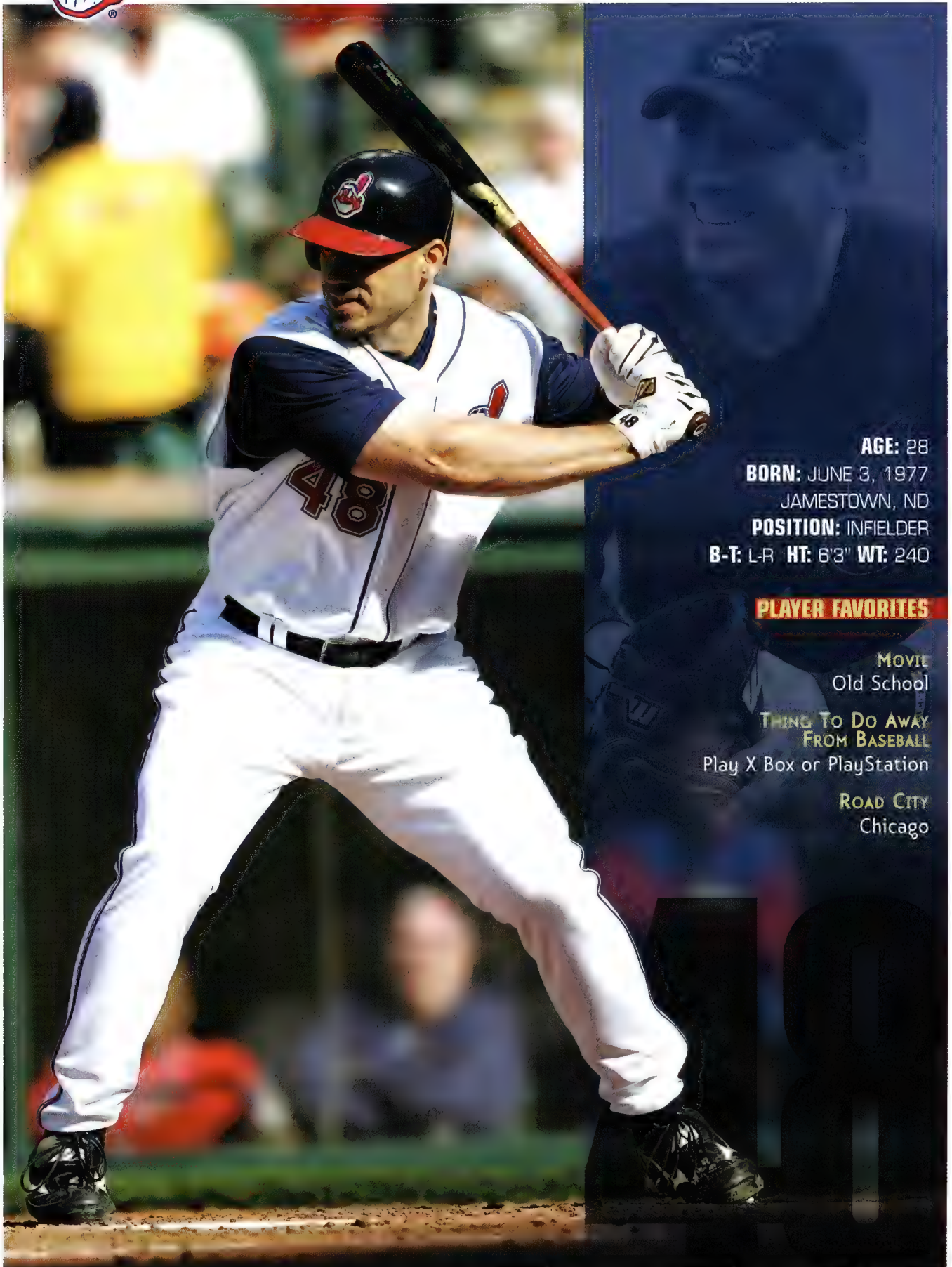
B-T: L-L **HT:** 6'0" **WT:** 190

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Chicago White Sox

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
Martin Luther King

ROAD CITY
Acapulco



AGE: 28

BORN: JUNE 3, 1977

JAMESTOWN, ND

POSITION: INFILDER

B-T: L-R **HT:** 6'3" **WT:** 240

PLAYER FAVORITES

MOVIE

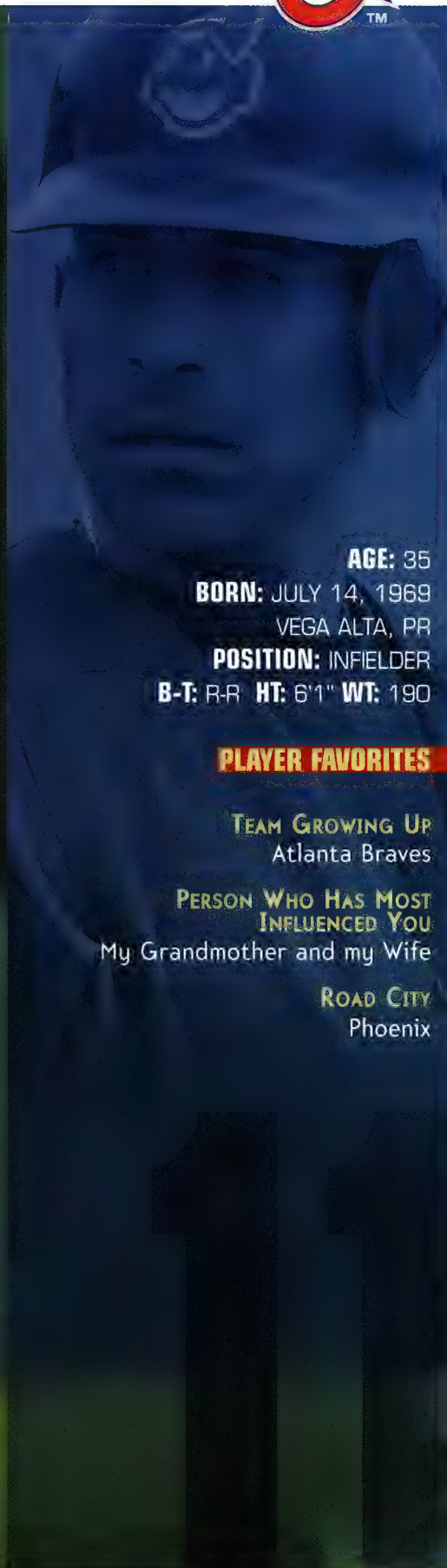
Old School

**THING TO DO AWAY
FROM BASEBALL**

Play X Box or PlayStation

ROAD CITY

Chicago



AGE: 35

BORN: JULY 14, 1969

VEGA ALTA, PR

POSITION: INFILDER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'1" **WT:** 190

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

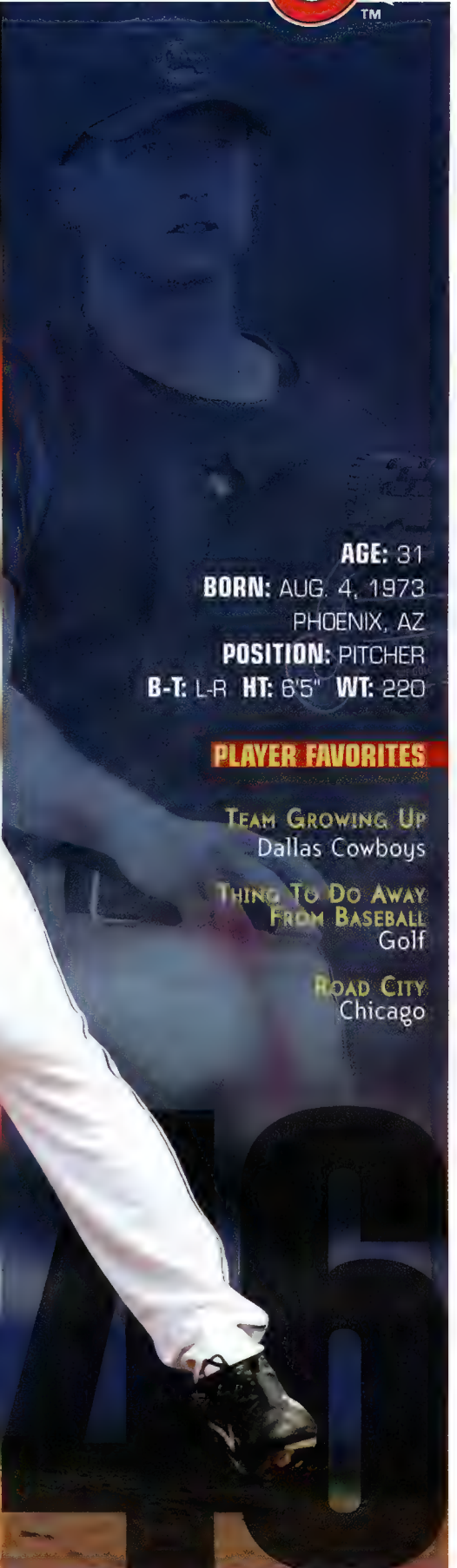
Atlanta Braves

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

My Grandmother and my Wife

ROAD CITY

Phoenix



AGE: 31

BORN: AUG. 4, 1973

PHOENIX, AZ

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: L-R **HT:** 6'5" **WT:** 220

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Dallas Cowboys

THING TO DO AWAY FROM BASEBALL
Golf

ROAD CITY
Chicago



AGE: 26

BORN: AUG. 30, 1978

BENTON, AR

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: L-L **HT:** 6'3" **WT:** 190

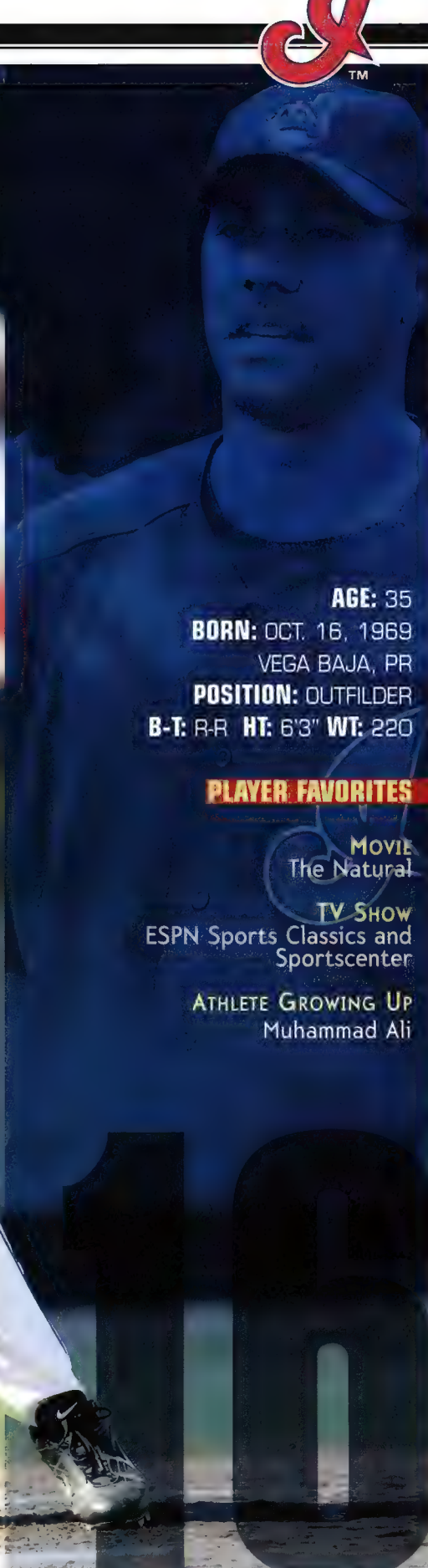
PLAYER FAVORITES

MOVIE:
Braveheart

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
Wes Garner

ROAD CITY
Kansas City

31



AGE: 35

BORN: OCT. 16, 1969

VEGA BAJA, PR

POSITION: OUTFIELDER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'3" **WT:** 220

PLAYER FAVORITES

MOVIE

The Natural

TV SHOW

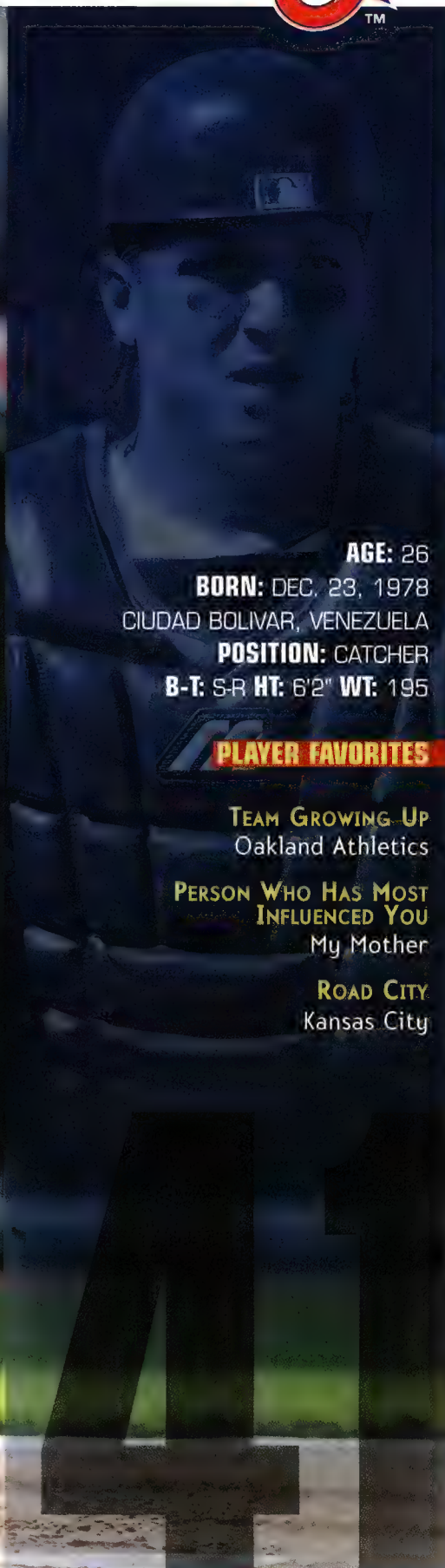
ESPN Sports Classics and Sportscenter

ATHLETE GROWING UP

Muhammad Ali

16

All photos: Gregory Drezdson



AGE: 26

BORN: DEC. 23, 1978

CIUDAD BOLIVAR, VENEZUELA

POSITION: CATCHER

B-T: S-R **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 195

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

Oakland Athletics

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

My Mother

ROAD CITY

Kansas City



AGE: 24

BORN: JULY 21, 1980

VALLEJO, CA

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: L-L **HT:** 6'7" **WT:** 290

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Boston Red Sox

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Mother

ROAD CITY
Seattle

59



AGE: 30

BORN: DEC. 24, 1974

GASTONIA, NC

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'4" **WT:** 230

PLAYER FAVORITES

MOVIE

Forrest Gump

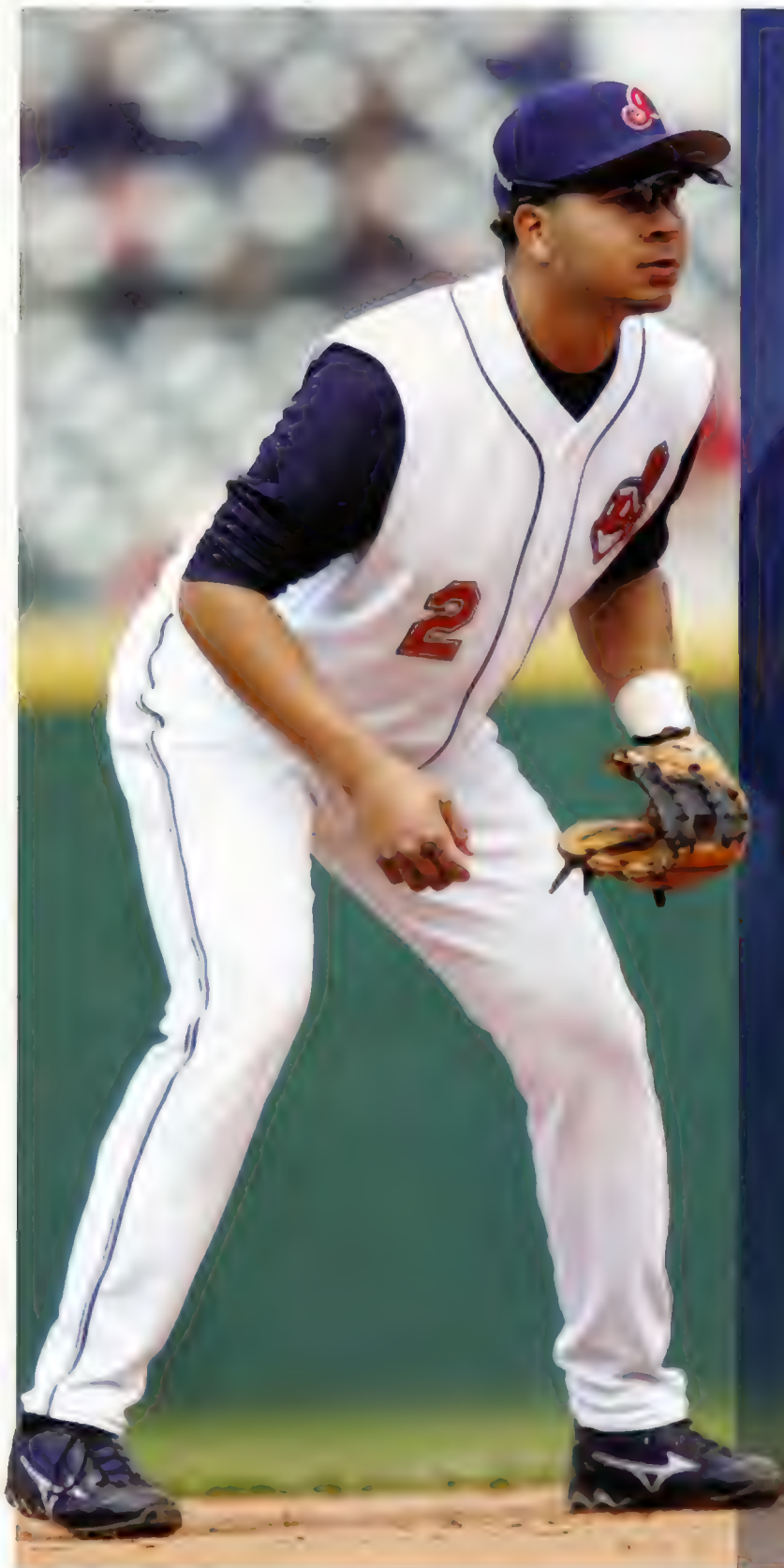
**THING TO DO AWAY
FROM BASEBALL**

Hunt

HOME CITY

San Diego





AGE: 23

BORN: MAY 28, 1982

SANTIAGO, DR

POSITION: INFILDER

B-T: R-R HT: 6'1" WT: 210

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

Oakland A's

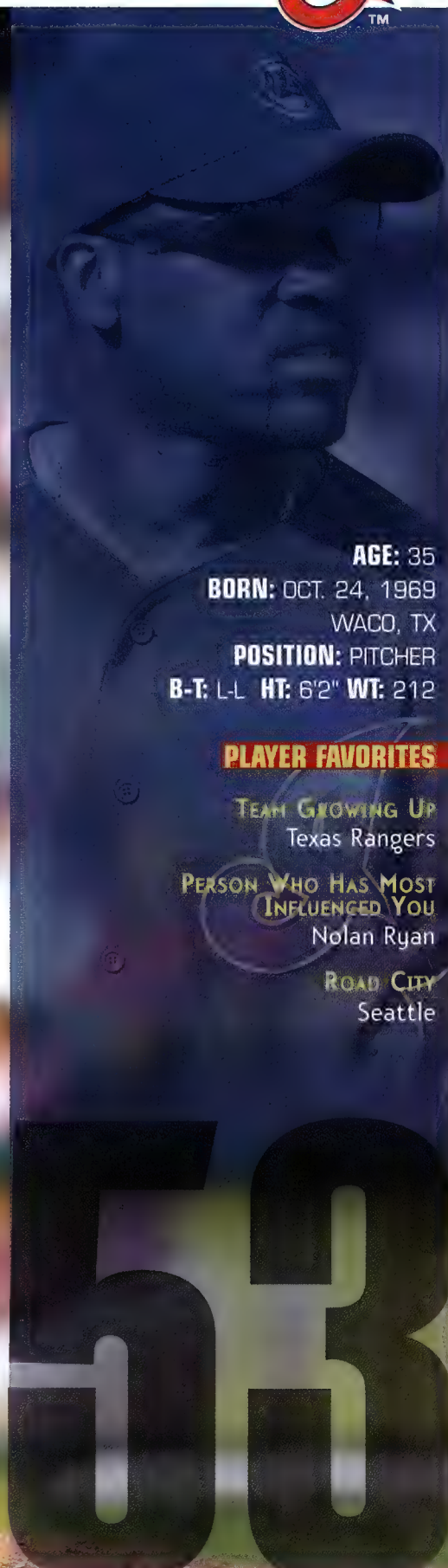
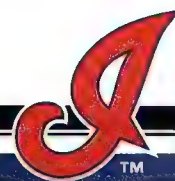
PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU

Family

ROAD CITY

Chicago

2



AGE: 35

BORN: OCT. 24, 1969

WACO, TX

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: L-L **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 212

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

Texas Rangers

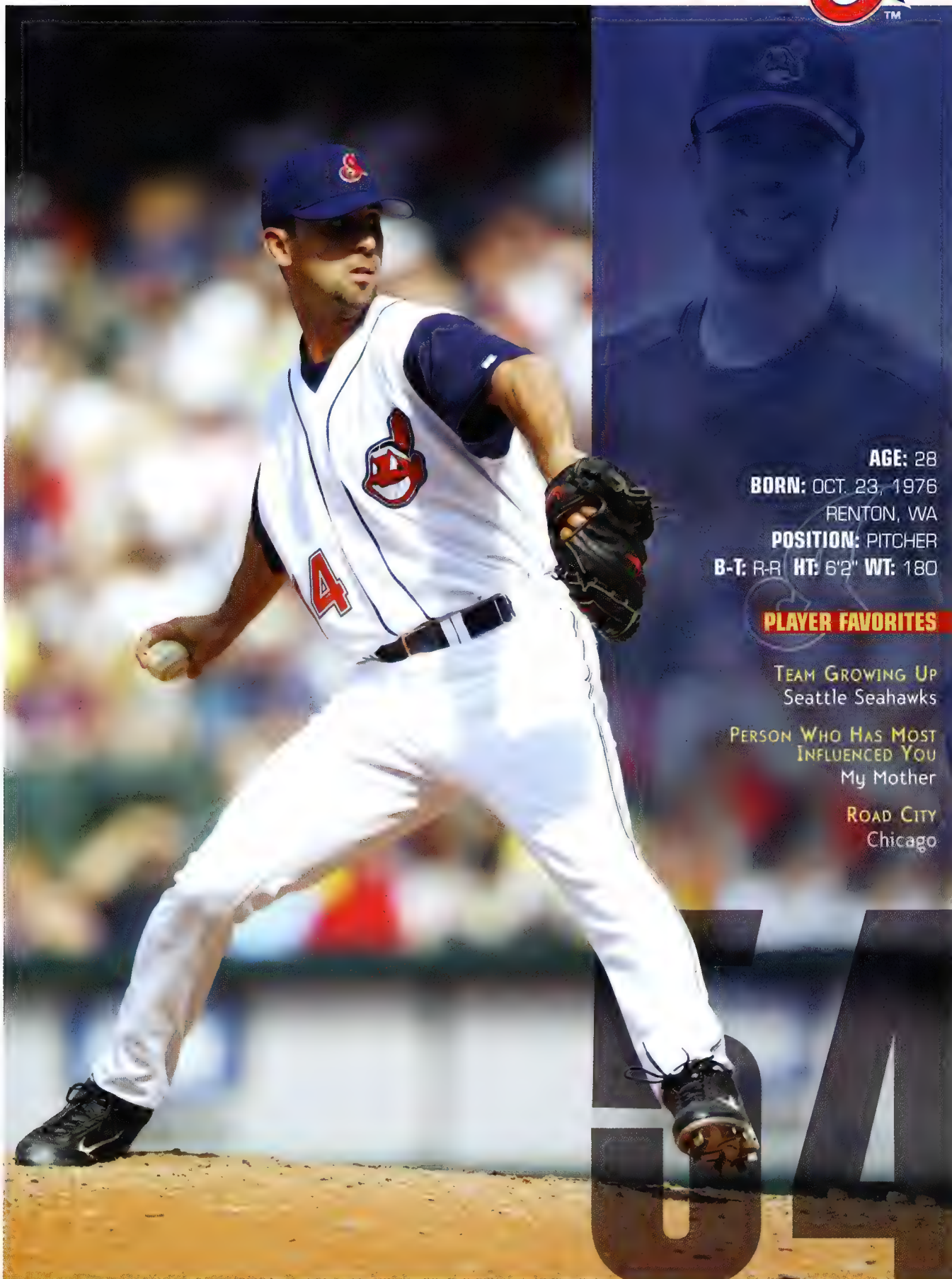
**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

Nolan Ryan

ROAD CITY

Seattle

53



AGE: 28

BORN: OCT. 23, 1976

RENTON, WA

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 180

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Seattle Seahawks

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Mother

ROAD CITY
Chicago



AGE: 24

BORN: JULY 21, 1980

VALLEJO, CA

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: L-L **HT:** 6'7" **WT:** 290

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

Oakland Raiders

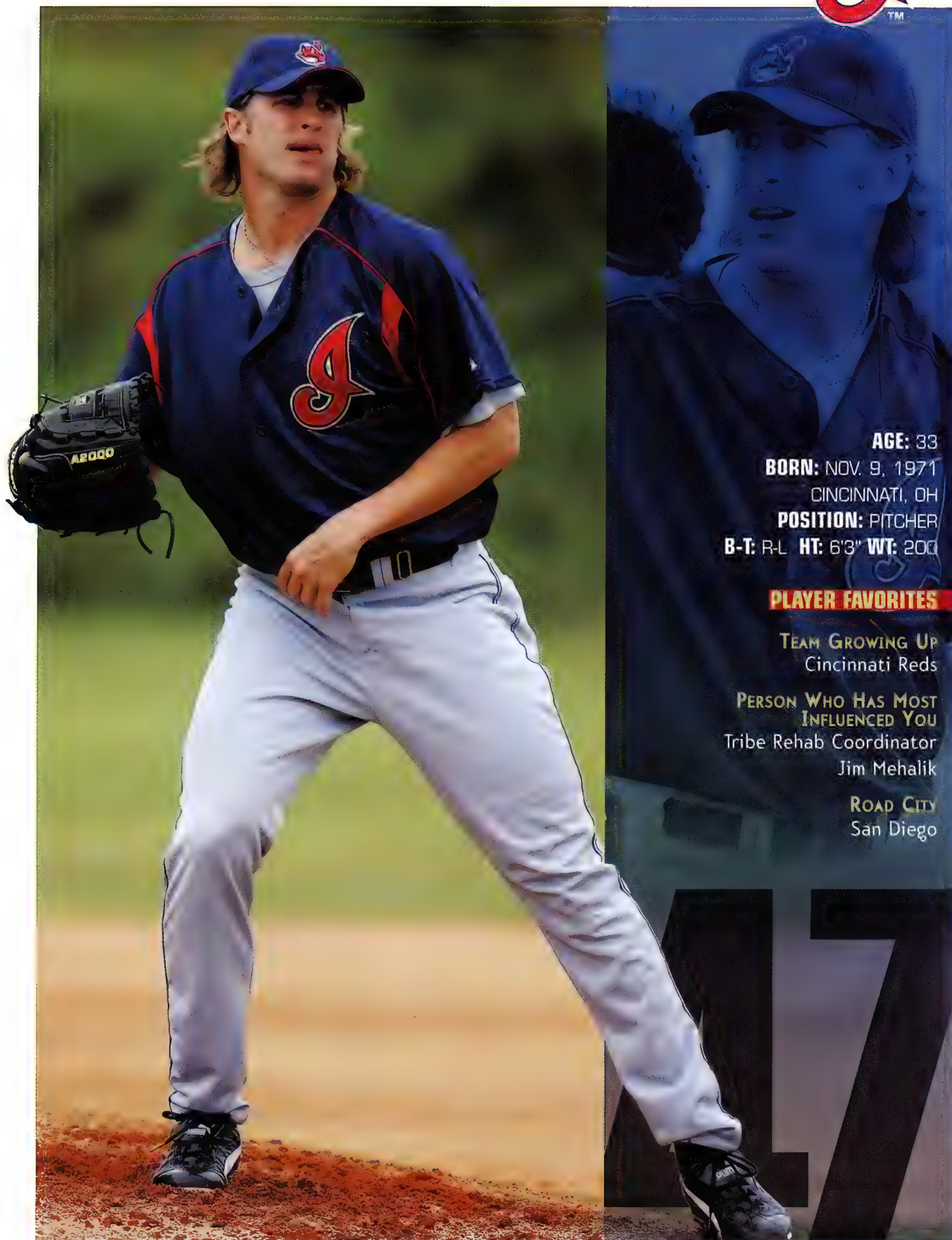
**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

My Mother

ROAD CITY

Chicago

52



AGE: 33

BORN: NOV. 9, 1971

CINCINNATI, OH

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: R-L **HT:** 6'3" **WT:** 200

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

Cincinnati Reds

PERSON WHO HAS MOST

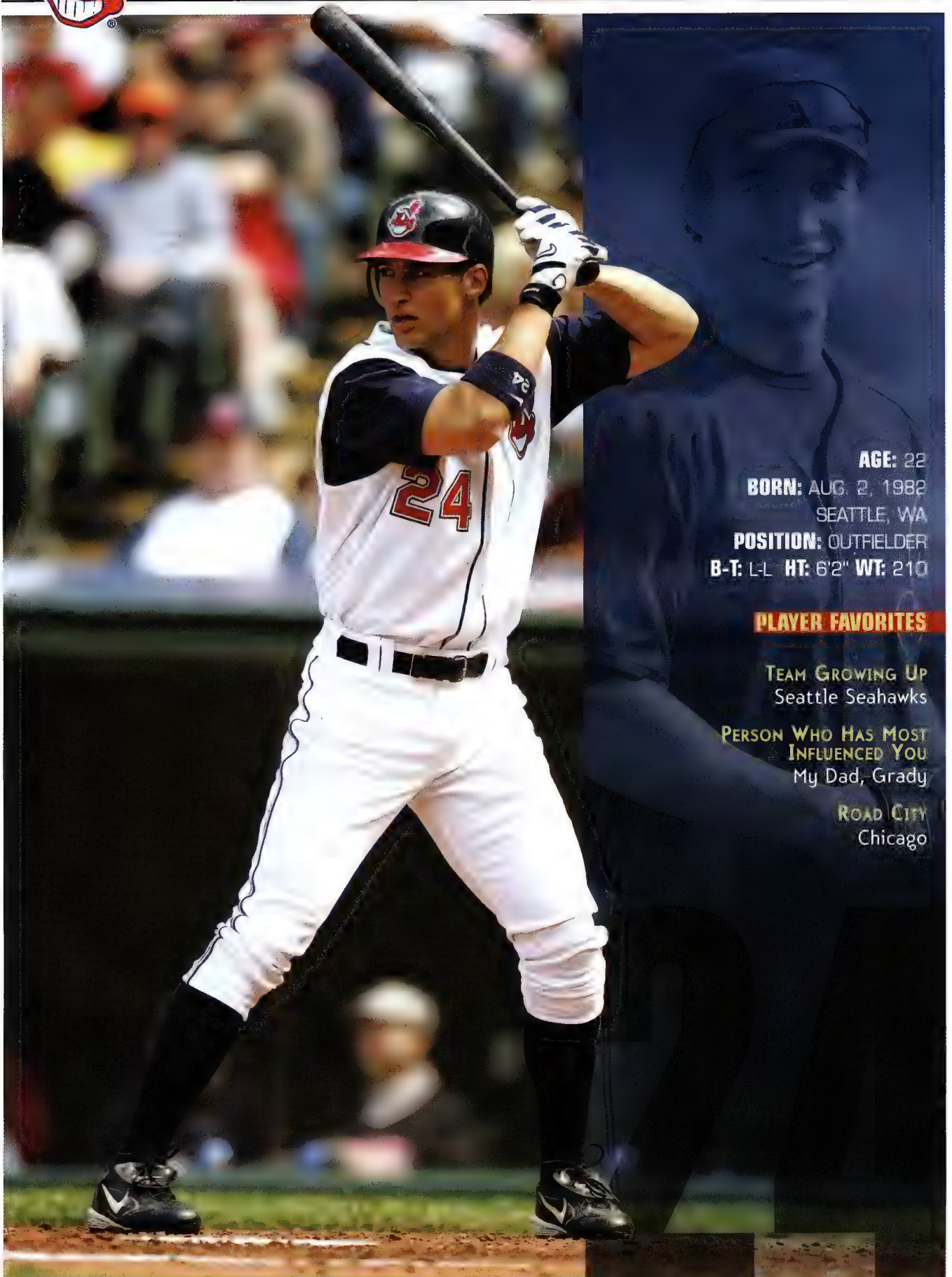
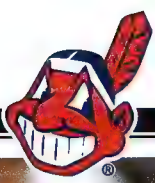
INFLUENCED YOU

Tribe Rehab Coordinator

Jim Mehalik

ROAD CITY

San Diego



AGE: 22

BORN: AUG. 2, 1982

SEATTLE, WA

POSITION: OUTFIELDER

B-T: L-L **HT:** 6'2" **WT:** 210

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

Seattle Seahawks

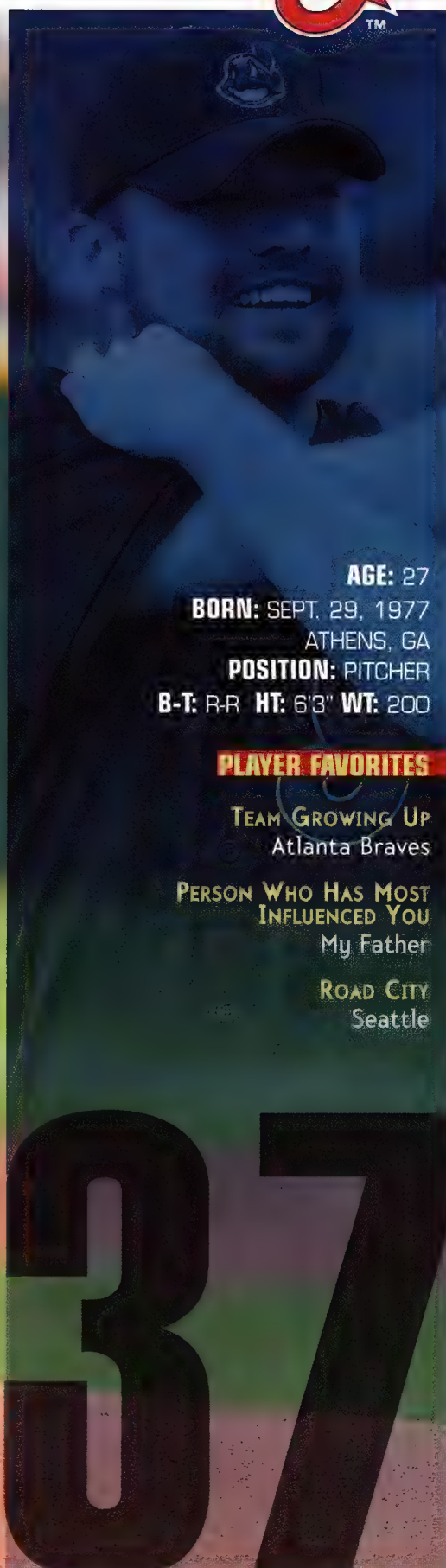
PERSON WHO HAS MOST

INFLUENCED YOU

My Dad, Grady

ROAD CITY

Chicago



AGE: 27

BORN: SEPT. 29, 1977

ATHENS, GA

POSITION: PITCHER

B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'3" **WT:** 200

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP

Atlanta Braves

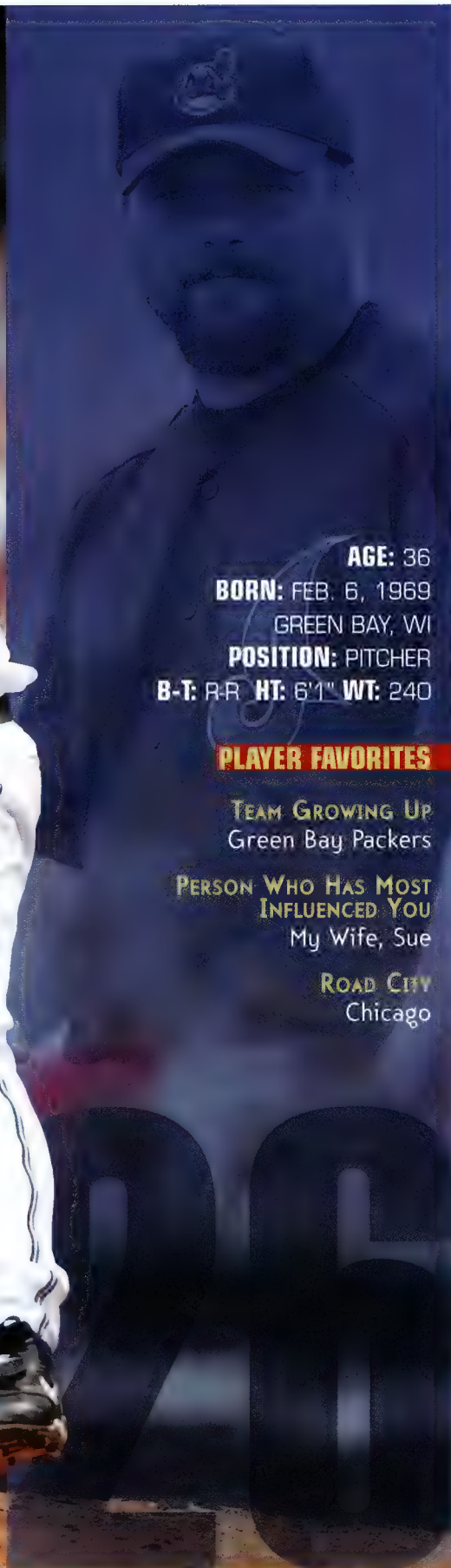
**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**

My Father

ROAD CITY

Seattle

37



AGE: 36
BORN: FEB. 6, 1969
GREEN BAY, WI
POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R **HT:** 6'1" **WT:** 240

PLAYER FAVORITES

TEAM GROWING UP
Green Bay Packers

**PERSON WHO HAS MOST
INFLUENCED YOU**
My Wife, Sue

ROAD CITY
Chicago

ANSWERS!



CONFLICT RESOLUTION



NORTH vs. SOUTH

Cleveland: 3, 5, 6, 7, 10
Cincinnati: 1, 2, 4, 8, 9

The year Herb Score set the rookie pitcher strikeout record? **1955.**

HIGH IN THE MIDDLE & ROUND ON THE ENDS



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

KIDSLAND AT JACOBS FIELD

... *A Special Place for Kids*

Kidsland is located behind Section 117

**University Hospitals
HealthSystem**

Rainbow Babies
& Children's Hospital



TEAM PRIDE TEE SHIRT

From Nutmeg.

ADULT SIZES M-2X. \$14.95

YOUTH 8-20 SIZES S-XL. \$12.95

BOYS 4-7 SIZES S-L. \$9.95

INDIANS POLYCARBONATE BOTTLE \$8.00

From Betras Plastics.

I LOVE INDIANS BROOCH \$12.00

From Aminco.

TEAM PRIDE TEE SHIRT
From Nutmeg.
ADULT SIZES M-2X. \$14.95
YOUTH 8-20 SIZES S-XL. \$12.95
BOYS 4-7 SIZES S-L. \$9.95

TURNDOWN SHORT CREW SOCK \$8.00
From For Bare Feet. Sizes 7-9, 9-11, 10-13.

INDIANS WRAP SUNGLASSES \$10.00
From Hunter.

INDIANS POLYCARBONATE BOTTLE \$8.00
From Betras Plastics.



TEAM PRIDE SWEATSHIRT

From Nutmeg.

ADULT SIZES M-2X. \$24.95

YOUTH 8-20 SIZES M-XL. \$22.95

BOYS 4-7 SIZES S-L. \$16.95

INDIANS CARABINER KEY TAG \$6.00

From Peter David.

Visit any of our seven Team Shop locations and get in gear.

To Order Call 1.800.38TRIBE



PLAYER SIGNATURE TEE SHIRT

From Nutmeg.

ADULT SIZES M-2X. \$20.00

YOUTH SIZES S-XL. \$16.00

Crisp (youth available)

Martinez (youth available)

YOUTH CRISP CAP \$15.00

From New Era. Ages 6-10 years.



PLAYER SIGNATURE TEE SHIRT

From Nutmeg.

ADULT SIZES M-2X. \$20.00

YOUTH SIZES S-XL. \$16.00

Hafner (youth available)

Sabathia (youth available)

SIGNATURE PRONK CAP \$20.00

From Twins. Adjustable.

PLAYER SIGNATURE TEE SHIRT

From Nutmeg.

ADULT SIZES M-2X. \$20.00

Belliard

Broussard

PLAYER JERSEY BASEBALLS \$5.00

From Rawlings.

Casey Blake

Aaron Boone

Ronnie Belliard

Victor Martinez

Travis Hafner

C.C. Sabathia

Coco Crisp

MINI GLOVE BALLHOLDER \$8.00

From Rawlings.



Visit any of our seven Team Shop locations and get in gear.

To Order Call 1.800.38TRIBE



AUTHENTIC ALTERNATE ROAD JERSEY \$180.00

From Majestic. Sizes 40-56.

AUTHENTIC ROAD CAP \$25.00

From New Era. Sizes 6-7/8" to 7-5/8".

AUTHENTIC HOME JERSEY \$180.00

From Majestic. Sizes 40-56.

AUTHENTIC HOME CAP \$25.00

From New Era. Sizes 6-7/8" to 7-5/8".



AUTHENTIC TEE SHIRT \$18.00

From Majestic. Sizes M-2X.

AUTHENTIC ALTERNATE HOME CAP \$25.00

From New Era. Sizes 6-7/8" to 7-5/8".

AUTHENTIC PREMIER JACKET \$110.00

From Majestic. Sizes M-2X.



AUTHENTIC BATTING PRACTICE CAP \$25.00

From New Era. Sizes S/M, M/L, L/XL.

AUTHENTIC BATTING PRACTICE JERSEY \$68.00

From Majestic. Sizes M-2X.

OFFICIAL MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL \$18.00

From Rawlings. Ball holder included.



Visit any of our seven
Team Shop locations.



Belden Village, Canton	330.497.8008
Great Lakes Mall, Mentor	440.974.0587
Great Northern Mall, N. Olmsted	440.777.7142
Jacobs Field	216.420.4444
Midway Mall, Elyria	440.324.3166
SouthPark Centre, Strongsville	440.572.8305
Summit Mall, Fairlawn	330.869.9639
Mail Order	1.800.38.TRIBE

THE 27TH OUT

24 SIZEMORE

GRADY SIZEMORE

Outfielder

IN HIS FIRST START IN THE BIGS LAST YEAR, GRADY Sizemore got a hit and an RBI. The next night, he had a game-winning hit. The next day, he hit his first Major League home run. At that point, there was no fancy nameplate, his name was glued over his locker. "It's pretty nice up here," he says. "You basically ask for something and they get it for you. You don't ever have to think about how much something costs. Trust me. You won't ever hear any complaints from me."

PEANUT BUTTER CRACKERS PROTEIN BAR

I usually have some sort of snack and a Gatorade before the game. Sometimes I'll have some candy, but don't let anybody in here know that.

CHIEF WAHOO CAP VS. THE "I" CAP

I like the Wahoo cap better. For some reason the "I" cap is tighter and way too snug on my head.

BATTING PRACTICE BAT (WITH TAPE)

Most guys don't do it, but I like to keep my batting practice bat in my locker so I don't have to go look for it when it's time to head out on the field. Basically, I'm lazy.

SUNGLASSES IN SUNGLASS CASE

Didn't need to use those much in the early part of the year.

FAN MAIL

I'm so bad at answering mail. I usually do it when there's a rain delay or something. Most of the letters are looking for autographs, but I do get some letters from girls. In the future, pictures would be appreciated.

WHITE SHOES AND COLOGNE

Whoever had this locker before me left these shoes and this bottle of Armani cologne. I think it's Brandon Phillips' stuff, but I'm not sure. I'm not touching it, though. I'm just gonna leave it here in case they come back for it.

ALL THE SHIRTS ON HANGERS

I use maybe a third of these clothes. It's nice to have them, though.

— Lane Strauss

